RG104 Entry 11

Mint of the United States.
Jan. 5th, 1839

Sir,

Your transfer-draft on the Treasurer of this Mint, for $50,000, endorsed in my favor, has been duly received, and I have made an arrangement with the U. S. Bank, in consequence of which they will receive, at this place, the coins for the certificates which they hold from your Mint, — up to that amount. You will please, therefore, to give information to this effect, and to ~~give your Treasurer to endorse the certificates~~ as payable by us: taking care, however, not to exceed ~~the $50,000~~ which we hold of yours. to the agents of the U. S. Bank who now hold the certificates ~~of the~~ at N. Orleans.

R. M. P.

To/
David Bradford, Esq
Sup. Br. Mint
New Orleans.

RG104 Entry 11

Mint U. S.
Jan 17th 1839.

Sir,

Your letter of the 14th inst. has been duly received, and has enabled me to give the statements respecting your Mint required in my annual report.

The dies which you ask for have been ordered, and will be forwarded without delay. It appears to me that no time should be lost in getting ready for the coinage of half dollars. Dimes and half-dimes count too slowly, and keep your account of coinage too low.

I pray you to present my respects to Gen. Gaines, and to inform him that the dies for his medal belong to the government, and are specially entrusted to the keeping of this Mint, as are all the other dies prepared under the same circumstances. The cost of an additional gold medal would be about $180; but Gen. Gaines is probably not aware that you have no presses in your Mint, with which such a medal could be struck.

R. M. P.

T/ David Bradford Esq
Supr. Br. Mint
New Orleans.

RG104 Entry 11

Treasury Department
First Comptroller's Office
January 18th 1839

Sir

On the examination in this Office, of your account of expenditures for the Branch Mint at New Orleans from 21st August 1835 to 30th July 1838, it appears that you have charged the following sums the vouchers for which are not with the accounts, viz.

1835

August 21.	Amount paid Merrick Agnew & Tyler as per receipt No 1	$2000.–
September 17	M W Baldwin No 2	2000.–
December 5	M W Baldwin " 3	1000.–
" 26	Merrick Agnew & Tyler " 4	1430.–
	Dollars	6430.–

You will please to forward these vouchers or their duplicates as early as may be in your power

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Servt
T Swan
Comptroller

R M Patterson Esq

RG104 Entry 11

RG104 Entry 11

New Orleans, Jany 19th 1839

Prof R M Patterson
Director of the Mint
Philad.a

Dear Sir

It is with extreme regret that I find myself compelled so soon after my arrival in this place to appeal to you for Justice. With my mind fully impressed with the Solemn oath I had taken faithfully to perform the duties of my office, I arrived here feeling an anxious desire to discharge the obligations thus laid upon me in the pursuit of these duties. I have thwarted the wishes of the Supt Mr Bradford and because I would not become his tool, & second him in his efforts to get the control of the Treasury, he has revoked the appointment you were pleased to make, & dismissed me from office. the sum of my offence is, having opposed the Supt in his assumption of the duties of Treas.r. I am sure Sir had you been present, & known all the circumstances you would have expressed yourself in even stronger terms in my favor than Mr Pastall the Treas.r did; who said he was perfectly satisfied with my conduct, and in his view I had done nothing wrong. The Treasurer has always expressed a desire that business should be conducted here as it is in Philad. I believe him to be a truly honest man who is anxious to discharge faithfully the duties of his office. he was much gratified when I arrived, thinking I would relieve him of a great part of his anxiety. But with many virtues he is a weak man. he is very much afraid of the Supt and does not oppose any of his measures, thinking he has power or influence enough to have him turned out of office.

But that you may better understand the situation of affairs here, I must trespass on your patience and give you a sketch from the time of my arrival to the present.

During my first interview with Mr Bradford, I stated your desire to have the annual Rept as soon as possible, and my willingness to commence it with delay - he with great reserve of manner informed me that Mr Lasserre was engaged in its preparation, & that my assistance was not required. for the next 3 or 4 days I confined myself to the duties of the reg room, putting things in order, delivg Bullion to the Mst & &c. on the 7th Mr Lasserre was appointed one of the Clerks of the Legislature, and resigned his situation in the mint. Mr Dimitry, a creole of very respectable family was put in his place; an appointment with which we were all pleased. it was about this time that Mr B. stated to me his desire that Copies of the Assayers Report should be prepared for the Mst & Refiner. I replied that Copies were not contemplated in the business of the Mint, there being less probability of error where the original papers were used. this was not agreeable to him, as he had long wished, for what

cause I know not, that the Mellors & Co should have copies & not original papers. Some short time since so anxious was he to carry out this plan, that he copied the report himself, it was one of silver early bolds. he omitted to write the word. the M&R had so much labor in rectifying this error, that he has since that time inserted upon having the originals.

On Monday the 7th inst the Treasurer gave me his Keys, with the charge that no one may enter the vault but himself & me - for up to this time the door was seldom locked during the day, & the Porter could be seen inside much oftener than the Treasurer himself.

On Thursday the Supt told me to leave the Keys of the vault with him when I left the office in the afternoon, as McLaserre was coming at 5 o'c to settle the accts, with himself (the Supt) & Mr Dimitry, the Bank Clerk, and hand me the balance of cash. I stated the Treasurer's order when he gave me his Keys, "that I could not give them up without the Treasurer's order" adding that if McLaserre was coming to settle his accts, I being weigh master was the proper person to receive from the Treas. whatever balance McLaserre had to hand over, that I could attend at 5 o'c for that purpose. this was declined, being considered by the Supt unnecessary.

A short time after this conversation he came to me & said he desired I should accompany him to Mr Forstall's house to get the order I thought necessary, when we arrived Mr F stated the object of the visit: I replied - that being the Treas's clk, & having rec'd the Keys from him, it was not proper for me to give them up without his order. this made him hesitate, & turning to the Supt he said that as I was just from the Mint in Philad^a I must probably know what was right. Mr F seeing a disinclination on the part of the Treas to give the order, & that I would not comply without it, proposed to defer the matter till next morning.

On Friday morning McLaserre counted the money in the vault which amounted to about $2300 & handed it over to me - but, without stating to what accts it belonged - shortly afterward I rec'd a letter from the Supt directing me to attend to the duties of weigh master (it seem'd he thought I was attending to more than my proper duties) - & on Monday another directing me to take charge of the Books & Blanks of the Wg Room - to hand over to the other clerk, the assayer's reports when warrants were to be issued, & to furnish the M&R with copies of these reports when I delivered him Bullion. this cut me off from all access to the rest of the Treas's books & papers, & that I might have no excuse for going near the desk & thus interfering with transactions the Books & Blanks mentioned in the note were taken out of the Treas office where they had always been kept, & placed in the weighing room.

yet this did not place the Supt at the summit of power at which he aimed. I had the keys of the Treas's vault. I can on occasion get money without my knowledge. The object of the next effort was to overcome this last obstruction - it succeeded. This morning the Supt addressed a letter to the Treas directing him to separate his funds - to keep his bullion definitely in one vault & his coins in another. (It may here be proper to state that the only vault which is really safe is the Treas, which is entirely encased with heavy bands of iron laid crossing - it has two iron doors, with good locks. Seemed not to be broken open without great labour) in this note the Supt offer'd the use of the vault opening into his own office for keeping his coins in, the key of which was to be in charge of Mr Dimitry. This vault was never intended for holding money, its walls are not of extra strength and altho it has two iron doors, but one can be locked - and in fact it is merely a safe for keeping books & papers in. Yet in this place is the Treasurer directed (in a manner he is afraid resist) to put all the Government funds he may have in his hands & all the coins rec'd from the Collectors & pay off certificates. The key taken from him & given to a young man who however honest he may be & desirous of faithfully discharging his trust, yet, not knowing what are his duties, he is a fit subject for a tool to the designing - as soon as this official letter, as the Treas consider'd & stiled it, he handed it to me. I ask'd him if he was willing to submit to such dictation & interference with the duties of his office - he replied that "coming from the Supt he supposed it must be obeyed". I then endeavoured to explain to him the great responsibility of his office - that himself and not Mr Bradford, was responsible for the correctness of his acts & that the Treas & not the Supt would be looked to in case of error. & therefore I did not think it proper he should consent to having his funds divided in this way - he has continued - but does not act. This conversation was all overheard by the Supt who stood inside the door of the rest room, listening - he entered the ry room & Mr Forstall told him my objections, adding that I thought Mr Dimitry ought not to have the keys. This the Supt consider'd "insufferable insubordination" (sure his own word & spelling). and is the charge preferred against me in my formal discharge given me a few minutes after.

The Treasurer was then directed to require me to give up the keys - which he did in a manner becoming a gentleman - I complied without hesitation - in one hour after they were in the possession of the Supt who had the porters busily engaged in dividing the bullion, putting the coins into his own vault.

RG104 Entry 11

Since this high handed & arbitrary course of conduct the Supt. has not been alone – the Assayer has been his steady adviser – & no doubt has his object in view – (a tale could be told of him, nor it denied) – he may want to have that influence over the Supt. he already has over the Treas. of whom he makes his boast, that he can do just as he pleases with him – & it is true – he always awaits him at his weak point – invites him to his room – where for a few glasses of wine, the poor old man sells himself to the Doctor, becomes his humble servant to say and think any thing this snake wishes –

Some of Mr. B's advisers have said "We can do nothing here till we shake off this northern influence & control, have our own Engraver, Dies &c, and make this Mint independent of the one in Philad."

It may partially surprise you that all this difficulty is displayed so soon after my arrival – the fact is until I came there was no one to call in question any of the Supt's actions, so that he might – up to this time he has been acting Treasurer, Clerk – & the Treas himself knows nothing of the state of his accts – he will without hesitation sign his name to any paper the Supt. may hand him & stand by & see any sum paid the Supt. may say.

I think I have said enough altho the half is not told – you will have to visit this place & have an agent to act for you – as yet you are feared – I hope the fear may continue till you are able to remedy the evil –

With Much Respect
I Remain in haste
Your ob Svt
W E Redfield

P.S. Please let me hear from you, directed to the Care of Messrs L W Zacharie & Co –

RG104 Entry 11

RG104 Entry 11

U S Mint New Orleans
January 23rd 1839

Sir

Your letter of the 4th inst. was received on the 21st inst and being engaged in settling the annual account of the Master & Refiner and Coiner, I take the first moment to answer it and have the honor to report that on the 17th inst I forwarded to the Secy of the Treasy to be forwarded to you under his frank all the Coins received for the Annual Assay at this Branch Mint up to the 16th inst of which I make a statement — a copy for the Treas.y return to me of that date viz:

3	Dimes	from delivery	June 25th 1838	Warrant	No.	1
1	"	"	July 14	"	"	2
6	"	"	23	"	"	3
7	"	"	27	"	"	4
14	"	"	30	"	"	5
2	"	"	Augt. 1	"	"	5
4	"	"	2	"	"	5
4	"	"	2	"	"	6
7	half dimes	"	January 16th 1839	"	"	7
48						

Your letter of the 19th ultto was answered by me on the 4th inst.

I am affected with sore eyes and beg you to excuse this badly written letter

Very Respectfully
Yr. Obt. Hum. Svt
David Bradford
Supt.

To
Dr. R M Patterson
Director
Mint
Philada

P. S. On the 25th May last, a set of forms & instructions was sent to your Br. The Copy, on file here, was sent to Mr. Stafford, while here; and as this is now missing, we have thought it possible that Mr. S. had, by mistake, carried it with him to N.O. - Will you be kind enough to call his attention to it, & request him, if he finds the copy in his possession, to return it by mail to the Director.

Mint of the United States,
January 25 1839.

Sir,

Herewith, I send you a full statement of the account of your Branch, for moneys received and paid out by me, for incidental and other expenses of your Mint, incurred here; I send also the original bills & receipts, as vouchers. - These will explain the items in the Dr. side of the account. In regard to the items of Cr., which were mostly remittances direct from yourself, I refer you to your letters dated Jan. 3d, Jan. 7th, Feby. 3d, Feb. 21st, March 4, & April 5th, & to letters of the Superintendent of April 20th, and May 22d, respectively. The credit balance of July 30th is the amount remaining in my hands, at that time, on settling, with the Treasury Department, my account for disbursements, made prior to the commencement of the acct. now rendered.

I have made no distinction between the amounts paid, here, to the families of workmen at your Br. on acct. of wages, and the amts. paid for your incidental expenses: this distinction, the vouchers will enable you to make. The former amts. have probably been already included in your quarterly accts, under the head of Wages of Laborers.

Edmd. Forstall, Esq.,
Supt. N.O. Br. Mint.

R. M. P.

RG104 Entry 11

Mint of the U. S.
Jan. 30. 1839.

Sir

I send, to day, to the Secretary of the Treasury, to be forwarded to you under his frank, two boxes, each containing two pairs of dies, one of dimes, the other of half-dimes.

I wait anxiously for your remittances of the relieved coins, as our annual assay takes place on the 11th proximo.

I learn from a letter received by one of our officers, from Mr. Stafford, that you have judged it necessary to discharge him from his place at your Mint. So far as I can understand the matter, from his own representations, you were quite justifiable in the course you have taken. It is true that our Clerk of the Weigh Room has the entire charge of the Treasurer's vault both for bullion & coin; but if you, with assent of your Treasurer, chose to separate these duties, it was his duty to yield, and to do so without such an exhibition of feeling as could not fail to be offensive.

R. M. P.
Director.

To/
David Bradford, Esq.
Supt. Br. Mint,
New Orleans.

RG104 Entry 11

Mint, U.S.
Jan 30 1839.

Sir,

I take the liberty of sending to you, by the present mail, two boxes containing dies, for the New Orleans Mint, which I pray you to forward under your frank, as here to fore.

R. M. P.
D.

To
Hon. Levi Woodbury,
Sec. of Treasury

RG104 Entry 11

Treasury Department
Jan. 30. 1839.

Sir

I transmit by this mail a package received from the Superintendant of the Branch Mint at N. Orleans - containing Coins of that Branch reserved for the annual assay.

I remain very Respy
Your Obed. Sr

Levi Woodbury
Sec. of the Treasury.

Dr. R. M. Patterson
Director of the Mint
Philada.

RG104 Entry 11

Mint U.S.
Jan 30 1839.

Sir,

I take the liberty of sending to you, by the present mail, two boxes containing dies, for the New Orleans Mint, which I pray you to forward under your frank, as heretofore.

R. M. P.

To
Hon. Levi Woodbury,
Sec. of Treasury

RG104 Entry 11

Silver Deposites received at the U.S. Mint at New Orleans from the 1st August to the 31st January 1839 inclusive

Date 1838	Description	Gross wt. after melting	Fine	Standard Weight	Value after deduction	Value at the deduction
August	Hammered dollars	16.197.61		17.786.42	21696.92	21695.92
	Mex. bullion	152	884	149.-	173.73	173.73
November	French coins	505	905	549.84	639.80	639.80
	Ornaments	363.55	917	366.67	426.67	426.67
	Foreign coins	140.65	878	137.21	159.66	159.66
	do	295.15	943	279.92	325.72	325.72
	Mexican bullion	152.40	984	166.62	193.88	193.22
December 1838	Foreign coins	1221		1200.05	1396.42	1396.42
January	do	94	883	92.22	107.30	107.30
	do	115.85	891	114.69	133.45	133.45
	Mex. bullion	102	895	101.43	118.02	118.02
	do	360.70	934	386.35	449.57	448.42
	do	163.10	915	164	190.83	190.83
	do from Gold		185	81.92	95.32	47.25
	do do		405	115.48	134.34	103.46
		3.125.85		3.447.18	4.028.38	3.937.98
		3.125.85		3.447.18	4.028.38	3.148.98
1838	Gold Deposites					
August	Mexican bullion	13.90	765	11.861	220.67	220.67
November	do	53.-	936	55.237	1.027.66	1.027.66
	do	250.-	949	263.411	4.904.37	2.904.37
	Foreign coins	80.85	891	80.402	1.489.12	1.489.12
	do Bullion for Silver			23.129	430.31	429.51
December	do Coins	18.55	892	18.482	343.57	343.57
	South Carolina	7.60	952	8.039	149.54	149.54
January	Sundry	1.23	424	.579	10.77	10.75
	Foreign coins	7.65	895	7.607	141.52	141.52
	do	53.10	893	52.687	980.22	980.22
	Georgia Bullion	398.57	792	358.741	6525.41	6513.33
	Foreign coins	6.05	896	6.023	112	112
	Georgia Gold	12.40	905	12.248	231.95	231.95
		479.10		430.105	8.001.8	7.979.77

Silver Coinage executed at the U.S. Mint at New Orleans from the commencement to the 31st January 1839 inclusive

Date	Denomination	Number of pieces	Value dollars	cents	Remarks
1838					
July	Dimes	367.000	36.700	40	
December	do	35.000	3500	-	
1839					
January	do	3.600	360	-	
"	Half dimes	70.000	3.500	-	
February	Dimes	118.000	11.800	-	
"	Half dimes	10.000	500	-	

RG104 Entry 11

1839 From the 1st to the 28th February inclusive

February	Mexican Bullion No. 1	152.75	978	165.95	193.14	192.65	
	do	1463.33	980	1593.40	1853.72	1853.72	
	Hammered Dollars	4355.45		4317.70	5124.23	5124.23	
	Silver from Gold	25.60	863	16.01	18.13	15.52	
	Mexican Bullion	105.	862	100.57	117.02	116.72	
	French Coins	801.	899	800.11	931.03	931.03	
	Hammered Dollars	642.26	880	627.99	730.75	730.75	
	Silver from Gold	28.	850	13.38	15.57	12.47	
	Mexican Bullion	415.	915	693.05	783.24	772.44	
	Hammered Dollars	254.	874	246.66	287.26	1065.22	
	French Coins	1483.75	910	1483.75	[illegible]	[illegible]	
	do	1615.50	899	1615.70	1877.54	[illegible]	
	do	1694.	919	1694	[illegible]	[illegible]	
	Mexican Bullion	78.	957	82.94	96.51	96.27	
	Mexican Coins	103.35	898	103.12	119.99	119.99	
	Do 1	2467.62		2645.38	[illegible]	2306.27	
	Do 2	1264.37		1597.03	1149.52	1125.80	
	Bullion	[illegible]		1358.42	[illegible]	[illegible]	

Gold

February	Foreign Coins	14.90	895	14.817	275.66	275.66	
	do	11.32	893	11.232	208.96	208.96	
	Mexican Bullion	245.75	570	161.342	3101.71	2996.15	
	Foreign Coins	17.88	894	17.760	330.	330.	
	Mexican Bullion	25.60	865	10.382	193.15	192.50	
	German Coins	10.	893	9.922	182.59	182.59	
	do	18.60	895	18.496			
		24.60	894	24.369	259.61	259.61	
		16.60	892	16.452			
	Mexican Bullion	28.	28	17.522	324.13	323.53	
	German Coins	85.22		84.462	1571.38	1571.38	
	Gr. Duchy Coins	7.43		6.810	126.69	126.69	
		[illegible]		[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	

Attested

David Bradford

Superintendent

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11) 315 2248
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RG104 Entry 11

Mint U.S.
~~Jan~~ Feb. 1st 1839.

Sir,

Your letter of the 23d ult, and your remittance of ~~same~~ assumed price for the annual assay, are both received this morning. The pieces consisted of 41 dimes and 7 half dimes, and their value is $4.45. This amount you will please to consider as transmitted to me from your ordinary fund, for contingent expenses incurred here, and I shall credit your account accordingly. The deficit thus created in your bullion account, you will supply, of course, from ~~yo~~ the ordinary fund in your hands.

The same course will be pursued as to the assay pieces, and we will take an early opportunity of letting you know the amount.

Yr. M. P.
D.

To
David Bradford Esq.
Sup. Br. Mint,
New Orleans.

RG104 Entry 11

Treasury Department
Feb. 2. 1839.

Sir,

The two boxes sent by you on the 30th. ult. have been received this day and forwarded to N. Orleans as requested.

I remain very Respy
Your Obedt. Sr.
Levi Woodbury
Sec. of the Treasury

R. R. Patterson
Philadª.

RG104 Entry 11

Mint of the U. S.
Feb. 5th, 1839.

Dear Sir,

I have received yesterday your letter of the 28th ult., and thank you for the freedom with which you have stated your opinions. I have written, by this ~~the~~ mail, to Mr. Bradford, and hope that the measures which I propose will serve to remove your complaints.

I have not answered Mr. Sprofford's letter, because I thought it my duty to wait for Mr. Bradford's account of the matter. I think, however, that I can see the ground of the misunderstanding, and that it had its origin in Mr. Sprofford's manner. I fear he was disposed rather to push, than to win, his way in the mint; and certainly when the Superintendent, with the assent of the trustees, marked out the division of duty which he wished him to pursue, he had but two proper courses left him, — and they were either to obey without offering opposition or to resign. Now the division of duty which was proposed

RG104 Entry 11

was not an unnatural one: it was to give to Mr. Spofford, as chief of the mint-room, the charge of all the bullion that required weighing; but to give the coins, when delivered to the treasurer, to another the direct charge of another clerk. Our course here is, indeed, to give to the clerk of the mint room the clerk immediate charge of all the Treasurer's vaults, with coins as well as bullion: but if your superintendent and treasurer chose to make a different arrangement, for reasons which they judged sufficient, I can see no reason why Mr. Spofford should not have submitted, and submitted ~~with~~ in a manner not offensive. — I have no objection to your stating these views to Mr. Spofford, as the impressions which this most unhappy affair has made on my mind. He is a man of energy, ability, skill, industry, and excellent moral worth, and I much regret that his services are lost to your mint.

Please tell Mr. Tyler that a call yesterday from his brother Cooper, she showed me a letter which I judge that he had written to make to me a remittance of. No such remittance, however, has come to me.

Your friends in this mint will, and remember you with great pleasure.

Very respectfully &c.
Your &c.
R. M. P.

Dr
James Maxwell, Esq

RG104 Entry 11

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ity, and ~~[illegible]~~
I much regret
u lost to your

Then told Mr. Tyler that I had a call yesterday from his landlady Mrs. Cooper, she showed me a paper from which I judge that he had intended to make to me a remittance of money. No such remittance, however, has come to me.

You find in this note an all not, and remain you with the kindest feelings.

Very respectfully Truly
Yours &c.
R. M. P.

To
James Marcwell, Esq

RG104 Entry 11

Mint U. S.
Feb. 5th, 1839.

Sir,

Since my letter to you of the 30th ult., I have received a long communication from Mr. Sheffield, ~~and another from Mr. Moorcroft~~, giving a more full account of the transactions which ended in his removal. Although the view which I had taken of this matter is not changed, I cannot but express my regret that, considering the circumstances of Mr. Sheffield's appointment, you should not have thought proper to give me any account of his dismissal. I had hoped that you would feel the propriety, if not the duty, of fully communicating with me on all matters which concern the business and character of the Branch of the Mint which is under your immediate superintendence, and my "general regulation and supervision."

I regret the removal of Mr. Sheffield because I am convinced that he had qualities which you might have found very useful to you. He had talents for business, was a good accountant, was active and industrious, and of unimpeachable

RG104 Entry 11

moral character. I am aware, however, that he had faults of manner which he seems to have ~~exhibited~~ before you in a way to be offensive. If his real heart has been accompanied with more modesty, you would still have had him in your employment, and would have been useful to you.

You seem to have been very unfortunate in your clerks, and Mr. Mascarel, in a letter of the 24th ult., says that "he has never been able to have a satisfactory settlement, — that the vouchers between the treasurer and himself have been made up from his statements alone, — and that not an account as yet has been opened;" — this last means, I ~~must~~ presume, the balance account between him and the treasury. If this be so, your treasury department must be in a state requiring immediate reform. Let me then pray you to tell me frankly its true condition, and the means which you have taken or propose to take to put it in order. ~~If~~ Is your treasurer an officer competent to the important trust which he holds; an his clerks attentive and industrious men of business? If the affairs of this

department of your mint are du
you desire to have the whole m
on a footing satisfactory to you
me, I will offer you a sur
of doing so, by sending to you
purpose, one of the officers of th
Mr. DuBois, who is thoroug
ted with the whole system of M
and whose manner, I can assu
not give offence.

I pray you to communic
with the confidence and frankness w
will ever characterize our intercou
opinions and wishes as to the
this letter.

R. M. P.
Di

To
David Bradford, Esq.
Sup. Br. Mint,
New Orleans.

RG104 Entry 11

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treasury department
uring immediate
pray you to take
ditions, and the
taken a person
der. ~~If~~ Is you
pectant to the in-
he holds; on his
dustrious men
o affairs of this

department of your mint an discharge, and you desire to have the whole matter put on a footing satisfactory to yourself and me, I will offer you a sure means of doing so, by sending to you, for this purpose, one of the officers of this Mint, Mr. DuBois, who is thoroughly acquainted with the whole system of Mint accounts, and whose manner, I can assure you, will not give offence.

I pray you to communicate to me, with the confidence and frankness which I hope will ever characterize our intercourse, your opinions and wishes as to the subjects of this letter.

R. M. P.
Director

To/
David Bradford, Esq.
Supt. Br. Mint,
New Orleans.

RG104 Entry 11

RG104 Entry 11

(B)

United States Br. Mint at N. Orleans
Treasurer's Office, 16th February 1839

Sir,

I have to acknowledge the receipt of a written communication from you, in which you request me to state in writing.

1st Whether an annual settlement of accounts has been made this year between the Treasurer and Melter & Refiner?

2d Whether the same was satisfactory or not?

3d Whether the warrants between the Melter & Refiner and the Treasurer, have been made up from the statements of the former alone, or from what source?

4th What is the state of accounts in this office — what, and, if any, has not yet been opened?

5th Particularly whether the Ballion account between the Melter & Refiner and the Treasurer, has been opened?

6 Generally the condition of the office —

7 That the above enquiries are to be considered as made also in relation to the accounts & transactions between the Treasurer & Coiner — and to answer you at the earliest convenience.

1st The annual settlement of accounts with the Melter & Refiner was made on the 22 January last.

2d I have no reason to believe that said settlement was otherwise than satisfactory, as it had received the signature of both parties.

3 I am not aware that any warrants have been

Mint U. S.
Feb. 12th 1839.

Sir,

The Annual Assay was held yesterday before ~~the~~ five Commissioners appointed by the government, in the presence of the Officers of the Mint, and it was found that your usual silver coins when weighed together, corresponded exactly with the legal weights; and when melted together and assayed the quality exceeded the legal standard by only one part in 2500. The result was, therefore, in both respects, perfectly satisfactory.

P. M. P.

To/
David Bradford Esq.
Supt. B. Mint
New Orleans.

RG104 Entry 11

RG104 Entry 11

Mint, U.S.
Feb. 12th, 1839.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 9th inst., asking "the full extent to which you can, if needed at any, draw on the Mint, without creating serious inconvenience?"

I subjoin the statement, from which it appears that we have in our vaults silver coins to the amount of $249,730, and gold coins to the amount of 657,900. — As we have often deposits of silver of $100,000 and $200,000, our amount of silver coins could not be reduced without endangering an interruption of our system of prompt payments, an event greatly to be deplored. But I think you may, without subjecting us to serious inconvenience, draw for half a million, provided you do not specify the kind of coins, so that we make payment in gold.

A treasury draft in favor of the New Orleans Mint, issued Oct. 13. 1838, for $50,000, was paid by us yesterday in silver, on a New Orleans

Mint Certificate for a deposit of Silver, due to the Bank of the United States. This quarter, you will perceive, increases the New Orleans ~~deposit~~ government deposit $50,000, and diminishes ours to the same amount.

P. M. P.

To/
Wm. Leigh Broadbury
Sec. of Treasy.

RG104 Entry 11

To Cr. of

United States Mint Dep. Acc. $206,548.24

United States Bullion Acc. 875,879.38 $1,082,427.62

On hand

Silver Coins, $149,730.13 in Treas. Vault

do 200,000.00 " C. Coinage do.

349,730.13

Deduct amt.

due Bk. of the U.S. 100,000.00 $249,730.13

Gold Coins in Treas. Vault. 657,900.00

Total Amount of Coins $907,630.13

Bullion on hand 174,797.49 $ 1,082,427.62

February 12th, 1839.

RG104 Entry 11

Mint of the United States
Feb. 13th, 1839.

Sir,

The balance of $50,000, due on your Mint Certificate No. 10 to Mess. M. De Lizardi & Co., was paid by us on the 11th inst. to the J. Cooperthwaite Esq., Cashier of the Bank of the United States, to whose order it had been endorsed. I send inclosed the cancelled certificate, as your voucher for the government.

The transfer draft from the treasury department, in your favor, upon this mint, issued Oct. 18th 1838, (No. 2271,) and which you had endorsed payable to my order, is thus paid to you by us, and the amount, $50,000, is added to your government deposite, by this transaction.

R. M. P.

To/
David Bradford Esq.
Sup. Br. Mint,
New Orleans.

RG104 Entry 11

(A)

U S B Mint New Orleans
February th 1839.

Sir

Your letters of 30th ult. and 5th inst. reached me on the 16th and 17th inst. I had heretofore avoided the unpleasant office of informing of the course I had deemed it my duty to pursue in relation to Mr. Spofford. My own feelings of propriety prevented me from disclosing that your selection had proved so unfortunate nor could I believe that any duty required me to trouble you on the subject. To the manner of Mr. Spofford I made no objection; had he not manifested insufferable insubordination, I should have been happy to have retained him in his situation as long as he performed its duties but when he disregarded every instruction, verbal and written which I addressed to him and set my authority utterly at defiance he left me no alternative. A sense of public duty alone, without any regard whatever to my own feelings, compelled me to dismiss him. I confess I was deeply disappointed and pained at the conduct of this individual as I had hoped from your recommendation to have found him in all respects qualified for the business of the institution.

An equally painful duty is imposed on me by your letter of the 5th inst. It seems that Mr. Maxwell has informed you by his letter of the 24th ult. to you, that "he has never been able to have a satisfactory settlement — that the warrants between the treasurer and himself have been made up from his statements alone — and that not an account as yet has been opened." How far these statements are true will appear from a communication from the treasurer in answer to my written request a copy of which is herein enclosed.

RG104 Entry 11

To this I will only add that the delay in making up the annual accounts between the Treasurer the Melter and Refiner and Coiner, was occasioned solely by the latter officers, who after their accounts had been rendered adjusted compared and approved were so tardy in closing them, by signing them, that I was on the point of sending them on without their signatures and reporting their delinquency.

You enquire "Is your treasurer an Officer Competent to the important trust which he holds?" I have to inform you that his accounts to the 30th June last were adjusted at the Treasury Department as appears by the enclosed Copy of a letter to him from the Comptroller dated December 27th 1838. And the enclosed copy of the communication from the Treasurer to me, to the accuracy of which I feel bound from my intimate knowledge of the facts to add my most unqualified assurance, will afford you authentic information, and furnish the fullest answer to your enquiry. For my own part I am perfectly satisfied that there is no derangement in the Treasurers Office and no need of any reform. At this time he has but one Clerk, Mr. Dimitry, a gentleman fully Competent very attentive and industrious, and as soon as I deem the business of the institution requires it I shall appoint another. The only Clerks appointed by me of my own selection, Mr. Dimitry, Mr. Durel and Mr. Lodera are as highly competent as any individuals to be found in the union. The two last resigned in consequence of the inadequacy of the salary. Mr. Lodera at present fills a lucrative and honorable employment in the Legislature of the State.

Permit me Sir in the same spirit of frankness and confidence which has induced me to answer every enquiry of yours to request that, in future, Copies of all letters addressed to you containing charges against any officer of the
be immediately forwarded to me so that in
the public interest or the rights of individuals
I am truely sorry that an occasion should
place to render this request necessary, but y
the 5th inst. has satisfied me of its proprie

Very Respec
Your Hum
David

To
Dr. R M Patterson
Director
Mint
Philad.

RG104 Entry 11

t the delay in making up the
the Melter and Refiner and Coiner,
or, who after their accounts had
nd approved were so tardy in
I was on the point of sending them
porting their delinquency.
ever an Officer Competent to the
to inform you that his accounts
f the Treasury Department as appears
him from the Comptroller dated
copy of the Communication from
hich I feel bound from my intimate
unqualified assurance, will afford
his the fullest answer to your
ly satisfied that there is no
e no need of any reform. At this
, a gentleman fully Competent
soon as I deem the business
appoint another. The only Clerks
Mr Dimitry, Mr Durel and Mr Lasere
ls to be found in the union. The two
equency of the salary. Mr Lasere
e employment in the Legislature

same spirit of frankness and
answer every enquiry of yours
all letters addressed to you

containing charges against any officer of this Institution be immediately forwarded to me so that in no instance the public interest or the rights of individuals may be violated. I am truely sorry that an occasion should have taken place to render this request necessary, but your letter of the 5th inst. has satisfied me of its propriety and justice.

Very Respectfully
Your Humble Servant
David Bradford
Superintendent

To
Dr R M Patterson
Director
Mint
Philad a

RG104 Entry 11

Mint U. S.
Feb. 26/1854.

Sir,

I take the liberty of sending you a box contains the pieces of die which I pray you to transmit, under your pack, to the Mint at New Orleans.

R. M. P.

To/ Wm. Lewis Moulton
Sec. of Treas.

RG104 Entry 11

Mint of the United States.
Feb. 28th, 1839.

Sir,

I have just received your letter of the February, (date omitted,) and am happy to find it explicit, and, so far as I can judge, satisfactory.

You may rely upon it, that I will receive no charges, or insinuations affecting you ~~[illegible] or your officers~~ that shall not be communicated to you, and my letter of the 5th inst. must have convinced you of this. I do not feel it necessary, hereafter, to send you copies of the letters I have received or may receive, unless they shall contain charges officially made. The dismissal of Mr. Speffard drew a long letter from him, which is answered only in my letters to yourself; and certainly, so long as I retain the confidence in you which I now feel, and which I doubt not will

RG104 Entry 11

~~but as long as our official connexion,~~
~~I shall consider you my proper cor-~~
~~respondent in all that concerns the~~
~~affairs of your Mint.~~ I have also
received letters from Messrs. Maxwell and
Mr. Sylvester, of which none, they that
directly concerns your superintendence, has
promptly communicated to you — except
one question which I forgot. It was
as to the proper disposition of the assay
pieces cut from the bars and ingots.
The answer is evident, and is, I do
not doubt, in accordance with your own
views. As all the bullion, from which
the assay pieces are cut, is charged to
the Mint for Refining, so all the
metal in the Assayer's hands must
be, from time to time, returned to this
office.

There is no circumstance, in the
management of the Mints, about which
I am more anxious, than that there
should be good understanding, kindly
intercourse, and cordial cooperation among
the officers. This desire is not less
felt by the heads of government. In a
letter from the Secretary of the Treasury

of the 26th inst., he says. "The
as well as this Department, ho
lines; that you will do all in
to reconcile any difficulties wh
exist among the Officers of the B
Mints, and that their operati
be conducted as effective efficien
creditable to all concerned as p
This remark has more immed
rence to another of the Branch
in as far as it may also be
to your mind, I do most s
hope and confidently hope that
tions will be marking, in your p
being about mutual confidence

On the 26th inst., I sent to
of the Treasury a box containing th
of half-dollar dies, for your Mint
he will forward to you under his

R. M.
D

To
David Bradford
Sup. Br. Mint,
New Orleans.

of the 26th ~~ult.~~ inst., he says: "The President, as well as this Department, hopes and believes, that you will do all in your power to reconcile any difficulties which may exist among the Officers of the Branch Mint, and that this operation may be rendered as ~~effective~~ efficient and creditable to all concerned as possible."

This remark has more immediate reference to another of the Branches; but, in as far as it may also be applicable to your Mint, I do most sincerely ~~hope~~ and confidently hope that no exertion will be wanting, on your part to bring about mutual confidence and peace.

On the 26th ~~ult.~~ inst., I sent to the Secretary of the Treasury a box containing two pairs of half-dollar dies, for your Mint, which he will forward to you under his franks.

R. M. P.

To
David Bradford,
Sup. Br. Mint,
New Orleans.

RG104 Entry 11

Treasury Department
February 26. 1859.

Sir

The box containing dies for the Branch Mint at N. Orleans transmitted by you on the 26. has been received and forwarded

I remain very Respy
Your Obed. Sert
Geo. Harris
Sec. of the Treasury

Dr. R. M. Patterson
Philad.

RG104 Entry 11

two

SLIDELL'S REPORT

ON

NEW ORLEANS

BRANCH MINT

INVESTIGATION

AUGUST 10TH, 1839

PATCHED & WRAPPED BY GRAFF MAR. 15, 1939

RG104 Entry 11

To R. M. Patterson Esq.
Director of the United States Mint
Philadelphia

Sir

In the Month of May last the attention of the Secretary of the Treasury having been called to certain difficulties existing among the Officers of the U. S. Branch Mint of New Orleans, and a recommendation having been made to him by Mr. Bradford the Superin=ant by a Letter of May 13. 1839, that the Melter & Refiner attached to that Branch should be removed, the Secretary in the [illegible]

See Doct 107.

[illegible] further information seems to be required to enable the department to come to a proper decision, I have to request that you will write to, and employ the District Attorney at New Orleans to enquire fully as to the qualifica=tions and efficiency of the present officers of the establishment, and of those recommended to succeed the Melter and Refiner, and Coiner in the event of their removal - and to report to you fully as to the character of the officers implicated and the state of the Branch Mint generally and its difficulties"

In pursuance of the Honorable Secretary's instructions, you on the 23d May 1839 addressed a Letter to me wherein you refer to the instructions of which a Copy was enclosed

Doc: 4

RG104 Entry 11

which had arisen respecting the [illegible]
of certain Bullion deposited by one Dam[illegible]
Casas. You also suggest the importance of [illegible]
Investigation of the accounts of the establi[illegible]
in consideration of certain complaints which [illegible]
been made on that point by the Melter [illegible]
Refiner.

Your Letter with its accompanying [illegible]
documents immediately received my seri[illegible]
consideration. It was evident that the p[illegible]
investigation would not only require much [illegible]
and labor, but from the charges which ha[illegible]
been made and the excited state of feeling [illegible]
which must necessarily have been produced [illegible]
it would be both a delicate and painful on[illegible]
The duties I was called upon to perform were [illegible]
[illegible] within my official sphere, and [illegible]

declining them, I would gladly have availed [illegible]
myself of it to avoid so arduous and unple[illegible]
a task. But reflection satisfied me that I [illegible]
not with propriety shrink from a compliance [illegible]
with the Secretary's requisition and your own [illegible]
and I accordingly commenced the desired [illegible]
investigation. I entered upon my task w[illegible]
any experience or information upon the [illegible]
to be submitted to me; and indeed with [illegible]
scarce any other qualifications than an [illegible]
earnest desire to discover the truth and [illegible]
gather such information as would enable [illegible]
yourself and the department to do justice [illegible]
between the conflicting parties whose officia[illegible]
variances have, I fear, been far from produc[illegible]
[illegible]

RG104 Entry 11

yourself and the department
between the conflicting parties whose office
variances have, I fear, been far from prod

you the evidence which has been collected,
consisting of the testimony of Witnesses, and a
large mass of documents, principally collected
from the Books of the Mint.

As in addition to the collection and
presentation of this evidence, the Secretary's
Letter requires me to make a full report
as to the character of the Officers and the
State of the Branch Mint generally and its
difficulties, I shall proceed to do so. The
task is a painful one, for it compels me
to animadvert on many cases wherein the
Laws of Congress, your own special instructions,
and even those ordinary rules for the safe
and judicious conduct of affairs which are
[illegible] not [illegible]
neglected or violated. Should the Report meet
the eye of any of those Officers whose conduct
is thus criticised, it may give them pain
and occasion me reproach; but I beg them
to recollect that I have not sought the unpleasant
task which has been thus allotted to me; and
that having once assumed it, it became my
duty to proceed, as I trust I have done, diligently,
impartially, and with the single object of
protecting the public interests. I trust also they
will attribute to its proper cause any
erroneous conclusions into which, from my
inexperience in the affairs of the mint, I may
occasionally fall.

I propose first to remark consecutively
upon the Official course and character (as
developed by this investigation) of the following

RG104 Entry 11

Doc. p. 15 the Superintendent has [illegible] the Treasurer was inefficient, and confided the performance of his business to his Clerks. Hence also an essential voucher of payment

Doc. 2. A. 9 &c. is lost, for on this Warrant upon delivering it at the reception of payment the depositor gives his formal receipt.*

2d. The Superintendant has countenanced a course of proceeding in some particular cases of deposites in which almost all the formalities of Law and the Directors instructions have been overlooked in the Treasurers Office

see infra. p. These cases will be more particularly detailed hereafter in another Branch of this Report

See Doc. 53 3rd. He has for a long time and in the generality of cases neglected the Monthly issue of the Warrants for transfer of Bullion, & ingots, [illegible] the Mint, and Refiner, and Coiner. These Warrants with their due endorsements are important vouchers, and their nondelivery has been one of the sources of dissatisfaction and complaint with some of the Officers of the Establishment

Doc. 1 Act of Jan 18. 1837 Sec. 30. 4th. He has not enforced the fulfillment of that provision of Law which directs that payments shall be made if demanded in the order in which the Bullion shall have been brought to the mint, giving priority according to priority of deposite only. By reference to the extracts from the Register of Silver Bullion

Doc. 23 herewith presented, You will observe that numerous deposites have been paid, whose date of deposite are many Months subsequent to the date of numerous certificates whereof

Doc. 54 list is furnished you, and nearly [illegible]

RG104 Entry 11

Doc: 23

herewith presented, [illegible]
numerous deposites have been paid, whose dates
of deposite are many Months subsequent
to the date of [illegible]

Doc: 54

list is furnished you, and nearly a year
subsequent to the dates of some of the protested

Doc: 42 to 50 inclusive

certificates. If this provision of Law had been
observed, it is reasonable to suppose that
much public dissatisfaction would have
been ~~saved~~ avoided, & that a public institution would
have been saved the opprobrium of a notary's
visit and the open protest of nine of its Mint

see Doc: 42 to 50 Inclusive

certificates, some of which were for the petty
sums of $38 6/100, $34 3 85/100, $193 22/100, and even $4 26/100
5th He has not enforced the fulfillment of the

see Doc: 1. Act of Jan: 18 1873 Sec: 23 & 29 Pt 18 (3)

provision of Law which requires the contents of
the coiners and of the Melter & Refiner's Vaults
to be delivered up once a year, which yearly
period was fixed by the Instructions of the

Doc: 2 p. 9.

Director for the 31st December of each year.
The neglect of the due observance of this
requisition is attributed by the Superintendent
to the unwillingness of other Officers; but the
power was in his hands, and if there were
such an unwillingness, he should have compelled
compliance.
6th The regular and careful keeping of the
Books, accounts and vouchers, in an establish-
ment ~~of the Mint~~, seems to me an object
of high importance essential to order and
good management, and highly necessary for the
safety of the public funds and the security
also of persons dealing with the Mint. It is
not perhaps easy to define the precise extent
to which the responsibility of the Superintendent
should be carried upon this subject, but it is
obvious that to a certain degree his supervision

RG104 Entry 11

at the conclusion thus opened. I
to present this important subject somewhat
in detail, and to suggest that the view of
it offered at the present stage of the Report
will also serve in advance to elucidate in
some degree the enquiry which will presently
follow with regard to the Treasurer.

Doc: 106.

1st. Your first enquiry was - Whether an
annual settlement of accounts has
been made this year between the
Treasurer and Melter & Refiner -
The reply was - "The annual settlement
was made on the 22 January last".
It is true that an account was
signed on 30th January by the
Treasurer and the Melter & Refiner,
but the proper Warrants were not actually issued
and endorsed by these Parties. Certain
Warrants were requisite for a proper
and formal adjustment of the accounts
and without them the accounts
could not in legal contemplation be
considered as duly settled. Even if as
between the Treasurer and the Melter
and Refiner the accounts could be
considered as agreed upon, yet the
Warrants establishing the Superintendent's
approval and formally endorsed by
the respective parties, were, as it
seems to me, an ingredient in
the Settlement which would have
given an additional security to the
department at Washington that all
was right, and have formed a safe
and convenient voucher. These remarks
will also apply to the second enquiry

see Doc: 2. p. 8.

Doc: 2. p. 8.

RG104 Entry 11

Doc: 2. p. 8.

department at Washington that all was right, and have formed a safe and [illegible] opinion. This will also apply to the second enquiry and the answer thereto - for although, to get the account through, the Melter & Refiner may have waived his wastage or other Warrant, it must be supposed it would have been more satisfactory to him, if these additional formalities had ratified the settlement with the Superintendents approval and the mutual endorsement of himself and the Treasurer.

Doc. p. 8. (5.)

To your fifth enquiry, "whether the Bullion account between the Melter & Refiner and the Treasurer has been opened", the Superintendent through the Treasurer, replies. "The Bullion account between the Treasurer and Melter & Refiner has been regularly opened and kept; the transfers to the Ledger have not been made for the reasons first stated."

Doc. 10.

This reply seems to me discordant with the Testimony of the Treasurers Clerk; in book keeping phrase this account could not be considered as opened, even at a date long subsequent to this Letter; and the Superintendant and Treasurer have, as I conceive, either mistaken the meaning of terms, or misapprehended facts.

Your better experience on the subject of Book keeping will, when applied to a consideration of the

RG104 Entry 11

[illegible] I have received a letter
from Mr. Bradford in answer to certain enquiries
propounded to him on this subject. This Letter is now
added to the documents under the No. 108. The reasons
and explanations there given seem to me unsatisfactory.
Moreover, for the Superintendant to endorse the Mint
certificate after the payment was made seems to me not
a fulfillment of the spirit of the requisition with regard
to Warrants. The Warrant is intended as the Treasurer's
proper authority to make a payment; the endorsement
of a returned Mint certificate after the payment has
made is only a ratification of the payment. It does not
appear from Mr. Bradford's Letter when these endorsements
by him of the Mint Certificates were made. If my memory
serves me, I do not remember being any such endorsement of
the Superintendent on those Mint certificates which I had
occasion to look at when conducting the investigation,
and the only two Mint certificates, of which Copies are
[illegible] among the enclosures (see Doc. 28) either to
no such endorsement, or if they did, these copies (collated
and approved by Mr. Bradford, Mr. Maxwell & myself)
are incorrect, which is hardly to be supposed. The only
way I can comprehend the matter is on the supposition
that Mr. Bradford's usage was to endorse at the close of
each quarter the Mint certificates which had been returned
& paid during the quarter. This course, as I have observed
would be a subsequent ratification of a payment by the
Treasurer, but is neither a compliance with the letter nor the spirit of
your instructions respecting Warrants, which are required
not only in the case of purchase of Bullion for coinage, but
also in the case of deposit of bullion for coinage.

T. J.

RG104 Entry 11

III — Of the Treasurer and his department —

The same favorable opinion as to the integrity of the late Treasurer has been expressed by all the Witnesses who have been interrogated on that subject; but his incompetency has been established by the testimony of several Witnesses, among whom were some of his own friends at the Mint. This also is too plainly demonstrated by his own testimony, whereby it appears that he knew very little about his own Books and the organisation of his Office, and must have confided almost every thing to his Clerks. His advanced years probably made this unavoidable. I deem it unnecessary to dwell more largely upon this topic with direct reference to the late Treasurer himself, but your instructions make it proper to notice the condition of the Treasurers Office.

Testimony of Bradford p. 15. Budlove p. 18. Hart p. 18.

Same as above

Ibid p 2. & his testimony passim

Let me in the first place recall your attention to what has been already said with regard to the Treasurers Letter of 15 Feby 1839, and the inaccuracies thereof which have been already particularly discussed.

Ante p

You have there seen that the Treasurer neglected to require or at least omitted to obtain from the Superintendant the issuing of the necessary Warrants which by your express instructions form the basis of the Journal entries: a neglect or omission which the list of unissued Warrants to be found among the documents shews was not occasional, but general, and has continued with a few exceptions down to the period of the investigation. You will observe also that the Ledger is still

Doc: 2. p. 8.

Doc: 53.

RG104 Entry 11

D.d 39.

unopened, and of course the accounts of the various Offices are not duly recorded. Observe also all the singular liberties, which unsanctioned by, and I presume without the knowledge of the late Treasurer, have been taken with the Books Thus, the original Book entitled Weighers Book is found crossed in divers places, and seems to have been discarded; while a new Book similarly entitled, and corresponding remarkably in size, binding, lettering, and appearance generally, has been purchased with the Superintendant's approbation to take its place, and wherein certain entries are copied from the original Book, but with a change of form - The purchase of this new Book and the discarding of the old book, of which say nineteen twentieths of the Sheets were blank and consequently could have served for a very long time for all the purposes to which the new one has been applied, seems to me not satisfactorily accounted for by the Superintendant or the Treasurers Clerk. I beg leave to call your attention to the charge made by the Melter and Refiner through his Counsel, that this Book was put aside and the new one substituted for the purpose of concealing certain entries favorable to positions assumed by the Melter and Refiner. The grounds taken by the Counsel are not all perspicuously stated, and some of them appear to rest rather on conjecture than positive evidence. But one thing is certain, that a Book which has once become part of the Records of the Treasurers' Office, should not be thus crossed and thrown aside, and another substituted, without any satisfactory reason for, or explanation of the change.

B.d 23.
D.d 24. 25. 26. 27. 28.

RG104 Entry 11

Doc. 19
P.d p. 5.

The same unceremonious course, was without the approbation of the Treasurer pursued with regard to the Weighing Book. Two leaves were torn from this

of the change.

The same unceremonious course, was with

Doc. 19

P.E. p. 3. (~~17~~)

the approbation of the Treasurer pursued with regard to the Weighing Book. Two leaves were torn from this Book by Mr Parker the Clerk of the Weigh Room, under the direction of Mr Dimitry the Treasurers Clerk. The Leaves thus separated were torn into pieces and thrown into the fire place, after some of the entries they contained were copied upon new pages of the weighing Book; while other entries of deposites, four in number, were omitted to be copied, and have never been copied else where. This matter of the torn leaves will be more distinctly discussed when I come to treat of the Casas' deposite - The Officers of the Treasurers department, and the Treasurer himself, seem not to have attached to this Book the importance it deserves. Is not the Weighing Book, as it were, the source and fountain head of the other Books, of the Register, of the Journal &c.? Its purpose is to present the name of the Depositor, the date of his deposit, its number, the description of the Bullion and its weight before and after melting - all these entries are required to be made in this important Book, and whence but from it are the materials on these Points for the Register (which in turn supplies materials for the Journal) to be gathered? All these entries are highly essential, and it will be observed are intended to exhibit a Record simultaneous with the respective steps of the transaction in the early stages of the history of each deposit. They are important to the depositor, if unfortunately he should lose his receipt; they are important to the government, that thereby it may be known what Bullion has been received into the Vaults of its mint, and for what amount and to whom it is liable - and for what amount the Weigher and his Superior

P.E. p. 3. (~~17~~)

see Doc: 19. & 20.

infra p.

P.E. p. 3. (1) G.

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the Treasurer are responsible. They are important to the Treasurer as has been shewn, because they form the foundation of the Assayers Report, and the source of his entries in other Books; because also they form a Check upon the Weigh-room Clerk, and because they shew when the Bullion has been in the hands of the Melter and Refiner and has returned thence to the Weighers Office, and whether or not the Melter and Refiner has in melting the Bullion kept within the prescribed limits of loss. For this latter reason also they are important to the Melter and Refiner. How can such a Book be lightly considered? In my opinion it is one of the most important Books in the Treasurers' Office; and if so, with what propriety can it be thus mutilated by a Clerk without the approbation of the Treasurer, or of the Melter and Refiner? — Again —— let me ask upon what authority was the course adopted in several cases, of receiving and paying for bullion without an entry in the Weighing Book, without any detailed entry in the Silver Register, without a special Assayers Report in the individual case, without a mint certificate, without a Directors Warrant, and without a credit in favor of the depositor on the Bullion Journal? Your instructions point out two modes by which Bullion may enter the mint, to wit, under the system entitled "The purchase of Bullion for coinage, on behalf of the United States" and under that entitled "The deposite of Bullion for coinage" - all these formalities are required by your instructions in either case, except only that under the first system the mint certificate is unnecessary and the credit on Bullion Journal is not prescribed. I am entirely at a loss to know on what authority such a course was pursued in the Treasurers' Office, and yet you will find that these safe and proper

see Doc. 21. 20. 23. 38. 22. 24

Doc 2. a. & b.

Doc: 2. a. & b.

Doc. 2 (2. 3. 4. 5 pages)

Doc 2 a

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Doc 2 A

that under the first system the mint Certificate is unnecessary - and the credit on the Bullion Journal is not presented. I am entirely at a loss to know on what authority such a course was pursued in the Treasurers' Office, and yet you will find that these safe and proper formalities, all or most of them, have been omitted

Doc: 21 &c,

in the cases recorded in the small deposite Book.

What but great confusion, serious risk, uncertainty of accounts, and even entries actually false however innocently intended, could result from so loose a mode of doing business?

In palpable illustration of the irregularity of doing Business in the Treasurers Department let us take a case that is recorded in the

Doc. 25

Register of Silver Bullion under the title of Jose Garcia and others — On the 14th May two distinct deposites were made by Jose Antonio Garcia and Mateo Stunot — on the 16th Salvador Vivoca, S. Gilpi, J. Tintore H. H. Pino, & Baptist Piffet

Doc. 25

made 5 distinct deposites, and on the 18th May two distinct deposites were made by Mrs. Powers and Jas. Redon — thus making nine deposites received on three different days, and which, as was proper, were separately entered on the weighing Book with the weight of each before melting, so far the transaction was regular — These nine deposites, as we are informed by Mr. Dimity the Treasurer Clerk, were melted together before assay - If this be, how comes it that the weights after melting are put down distinctly and deposite by deposite, in the weighing Book. One or other of these positions is undoubtedly incorrect, that is to say, either they were melted separately, in which case Mr Dimitry's testimony is incorrect; or they were melted together, and then the entry of the weight

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after melting must be a mere conjectural entry put down on surmise or upon an artificial calculation, and not from actual weighing of each particular deposite, which would have been rendered impossible by their being melted together. It is fair to assume the latter position, to wit, that the entries on the Weighing Book of the weight after melting were conjectural or a matter of calculation; else how, if they were melted separately could we suppose Dr. Cook the Assayer could have reported in one line thus, ——

—— Gross weight 1713.20 (which is the total gross weight of the nine deposites) – fineness 880 – Standard weight 1075.13 – ? ——

It is evident that these deposites were not identical in fineness, – for some were Mexican Dollars whose usual standard is 896 or very nearly so – some Peruvian – some hammered Dollars – Putting then the Assayers Report and Dimitry's testimony together, it seems plain that the Weighing Book contains erroneous entries in the case of the whole nine deposites, or at least what is put down there as matter of fact, was in reality a mere matter of conjecture.

Dec. 25 We come next to the Register of Silver Bullion. Here the whole nine deposites are thrown together under the loose designation of A deposite by J. A. Garcia and others, as follows. It is stated to have been all received on the 22d May 1819. This was not the actual date of a single deposit according to the Weighing Book; for the earliest was received on the 16th, and the latest on the 18th; nor is it the date of the Assayers Report, which is given as the date of receipt on the Silver Register; for

Dec. 25. the Assayers Report is dated the 21st. This then is an artificial date altogether. Next comes

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[illegible], nor is it the date of the Assayers Report, which seems in some cases to have been assumed as the date of receipt on the Mint Report, for

See Doc: 25. the Assayers Report is dated the 21st. Thus there is an artificial date altogether. Next comes the entry of the number of this deposite, or rather aggregate of deposites - it is called No. 165. Whence this Number is derived, I know not - The latest of the deposites was numbered in the Weighing Book 163 - Next the Bullion is described as a deposite of J. A. Garcia and others, giving one name only out of the nine depositors. Next, the bullion is described as mexican and Hammered Dollars - but the Weighing Book shows there were some Peruvian coins - again, it is recorded in the Register as paid to the depositors on the

Doc: 25 23rd May; now Dimitry declares he is pretty sure the depositors were not all paid on the same day - Again, but one Mint certificate issued for the whole amount, and this in the name of one Man only, Jose Garcia; Now the amount of this Certificate must have been 16oz. 13.; but the Grs weight of Garcia's portion was only 84.53, and of course the standard weight must have been much less than 100 oz. Again although this does not positively appear, yet it is altogether likely that but one receipt was taken, to wit, by the endorsement of Garcia upon the solitary mint certificate for 16oz. 13. - Again, this total amount of 16oz. 13

Doc 29. is credited to Jose Garcia alone on the Bullion Journal. Observe then, independent of all the other irregularities and omissions, how many erroneous entries in the Books of the Treasurers department are here exhibited. There are nine erroneous entries in the Weighing

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Book, to wit, of the weight of each deposite after Melting, if I am right and Mr Dimitry's testimony is right in the position that they were all melted together; - there are certainly three erroneous entries in the Register of Silver Bullion - to wit, - the date of receipt of the Bullion, the number of the deposite, and the date of payment; - there is an erroneous entry (and an erroneous Mint certificate) in the Margin of the Certificate Book; - there is an erroneous entry in the Bullion Journal.

Observe some of the embarrassments and evil consequences which would flow from such a state of the Books, and such a mode of doing business. What vouchers or entry has the mint, in the first place, to shew that eight of these deposites have been paid for the deposites, for which the Weighing Book establishes the mint to be their debtor? Next, if these deposites have all been paid, in what proportions, or according to what standard, have they been paid? - did they get paid Dollar for Dollar for what they brought? Then the man who deposited the mexican dollar got the same as he who deposited the Carraccas Dollar, or he who deposited the Peruvian Dollar; - yet the fineness of these coins is different - But did they receive pay proportionably after the total Mass was assayed? - then also, there was injustice, for they deposited different qualities of bullion. Here then in either case, injustice must have been done, either to some of the depositors by paying [illegible] to the Government by paying some of them according to a Standard too high - for I presume that no one would contend, that [illegible] one species of coin,

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also, there was injustice, for they deposited different qualities of bullion. Here then in either case, injustice must have been done, either to some of the depositors by paying them according to a Standard too low, or to the Government by paying some of them according to a Standard too high - for I presume that no one would contend, that the nine deposites, some of one species of coin, and some of another, were all identical in standard before melting, as of course they became after being melted in mass and together.

Other difficulties and embarrasments would result from such a mode of keeping Books and doing business; but it is needless to enter further into details upon the evil consequences of proceeding so manifestly wrong.

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III. Of Mr. Dimitry, the Treasurers Clerk.

This Gentleman appears for a long time past to have been practically the Treasurer of the Mint; the business of that Office, as has been shewn, not having been understood or conducted by the Treasurer himself but confided to his Clerk. Under these circumstances it would seem unnecessary in speaking of the Clerk to do more than refer you to what has been already said in speaking of the Treasurers Office and to what will be presently stated in discussing the case of the Cases deposit.

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IV. Of the Mint and Bullion

IV — Of the Melter and Refiner.

Bp. p. 15. (47)

This Officer appears to have been uniformly industrious in his department and to have kept up with the work allotted to him. My opinion is favorable also as to his honesty, on which score charges have been made against him. You will see from the sequel that I have arrived at the conclusion that he is not chargeable with the bars deposited, a subject which I purpose presently, in accordance with your instructions to examine minutely. That the temper of the Melter and Refiner has been occasionally irritable, I think probable; the trying ordeal through which he has lately passed will no doubt suggest to him the propriety of curbing this temperament. ~~If the charges which have been made against him on this score be correct~~. I cannot agree with the Superintendent in the propriety of his removal — so far at least as I have been able to comprehend the testimony. But there is a part of the testimony, to wit the conflict between himself and the Assayer with regard to Assays, upon which, from fear of doing injustice to one or other of those Gentlemen, I feel it my duty to decline the expression of an opinion — This contest embraces scientific discussion and details upon which I do not feel myself competent to decide, and beg leave to submit it to you, who from your experience and acquaintance with the subject will be fully able to understand

see Doc: 5 & 8. Rat 6. 18.

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Doc: 10 7. p. 9.

Doc: 12. 13. 14 & 15.

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and pass upon the evidence. They mutually charge each other with incompetence and loseness in the conduct of their respective departments. Be pleased therefore to consider my opinion as to the Melter & Refiners competency as given with a reservation of what might be deduced, from the conflicting statements of himself and the Assayer, by one having a satisfactory acquaintance with the scientific subjects of which they treat. I consider it more fair to these two Officers and more just to myself not to attempt to decide upon what I do not fully understand. You will see that I have taken pains to give them both a fair opportunity to develope their respective views.

You will observe, that the Melter and Refiner has neglected to keep, as is directed by your instructions, a full Memorandum Book of Receipts of Bullion from the Treasurer. The reason he gives is that his Silver account Book was his record of such receipts. As your Instructions required it, and as the practice would have contributed to additional accuracy, he should have done so, and not relied solely upon his account Book. Some irregularities in the Melter & Refiners account Book will be noticed when I come to speak of the Case of Damien Casas.

Doc: 2. C. p. 5.

V. Of Dr. Hart the Assayer. The contest between Dr. Hart and the Melter & Refiner is referred to you as above stated, and for the reasons above given.

see Doc. 12.13.14.15.16

VII. Of the Coiner.

My opinion of the Officer's competency and character is decidedly favorable. He

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to you as above stated, and for the reasons already given.

VII. — Of the Coiner.

My opinion of this Officer's competency and character is decidedly favorable. The testimony shews him to be industrious and accomplished. That he may not have brought his department into due working condition with as much rapidity as was practicable, may be possible; but the investigation has satisfied me that it was not from want of anxiety to do so; and allowances, it seems to me, may with propriety be made, when it is considered that the Machinery, appurtenances, and details of his department are very complicated, and that much time was necessarily required to get every thing in due order. I am not satisfied from the testimony that he desired to undervalue the attainments and skill of the accomplished ~~Mr.~~ mechanician who prepared the Mass of the Machinery at Philadelphia, or to advance the interests of himself and his friends by capricious condemnation of it. He appears, on the contrary, to have labored assiduously in retrieving any injury it may have sustained in the progress of its transportation, and the changes he has attempted to make have been few, and, if not necessary, certainly not capricious. The intimations which have been made to the Treasury department that the coiner, and the Melter and refiner, have been led by feeling of political hostility to pursue a course detrimental to the interests of the mint, seems to me quite unsupported by the testimony. ~~and~~ Indeed it would have

Doc 107. p. 9.

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been surprising, if they could have entertained so suicidal a design as to attempt to injure or jeopardise the existence of a useful institution, through which they were making the daily bread of themselves and their families. The appointment of these two Officers was made, I presume, by the executive, not with reference to their political opinions which could not be expected to be of much importance in the retired stations allotted to them, but from a consideration of their reputed scientific attainments in branches not so generally known as to afford a very wide scope for the executive choice. Their quiet and unobtrusive adherence to their original opinions seems to me a matter of very little moment, so long as they shall be found to perform their officiae duties with honesty and fidelity. Though strongly opposed to their political tenets, I respect the candour with which they have avowed them.

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Of the affair of Casas' Deposite.

Of the affair of Casas' Deposite.

I come now to the consideration of the affair of the deposite of Damian Casas, to which you requested me to direct a special attention. Although points of difficulty had previously occurred between some of the Officers, and much ill feeling had resulted it was this Affair which kindled their ~~spirits~~ excitement into a flame, and which was the immediate cause of the late Investigation. Upon this matter I bestowed, as you will observe, many days of close examination. The great mass of testimony, direct and indirect, elicited upon the subject, presents such an accumulation of inconsistencies and contradictions, of Oath against Oath, opinion against opinion, circumstance against circumstance, that the mind is at first greatly bewildered in its search after truth, and after all is perhaps obliged to rest satisfied with probability in its efforts to attain the more satisfactory result of Certainty. After long reflection upon this singular case, weighing the antagonist circumstances one against the other, and gathering together and contrasting each remote as well as direct matter of evidence which resulted from this laborious enquiry, my Mind has settled upon the conviction that the Melter & Refiner is not chargeable with the Casas Bullion. I shall endeavor to present, as briefly as may be consistent with a proper elucidation of this strange case, the circumstances and reasons which have led me to this conclusion.

In doing so I shall not attempt the disagreeable task of actually weighing oaths against Oaths, so far as the actual veracity of the opposing parties is

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concerned. My opinion is rather based upon a consideration of the attendant circumstances, as peaing of the Records of the Treasurers Office, than of any positive assertion pro or con. I shall not attempt to decide that parties have perverted, but only that they have mistaken the truth - a thing which might well happen in the excited state of feeling which has existed so unhappily in the minds of both the factions into which the Officers of the Mint have been divided.

Doc: 19. 20 On the 16th of April 1839 it is plain that one Damian Casas brought to the Weighers Office at the Mint a sum of $200, wholly or principally Mexican, which was there weighed by Mr Dimitry the Clerk, and a receipt therefor was given bearing

Doc. 27 date the 16th day of April 1839, which declares that the Treasurer had on that day received from Damian Casas for coinage Silver Bullion weighing grs One hundred and seventy three Ounces. The date upon the original Sheet upon the weighing Book and upon the receipt to Casas, as also the name, all correspond. But here an obscurity at once springs up; on the torn Sheet of the Weighing Book, at the column where is placed the weight before melting, we find a collection of figures so confused by being written the one over the other, that even after careful inspection with the Microscope, it is difficult to say in what order of time the figures were there placed. This Sheet consisting of two leaves (which was afterwards as will be more particularly noticed torn from the Book by the new Weighing Clerk under Mr Dimitry's orders, and being torn in pieces was thrown aside and subsequently found and pasted together)

Doc. 19. is now presented to you in the original with other Documents. I invite your careful attention to it. Mr Dimitry says the original figures put there by himself were $6.50 which he put [illegible]

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Documents. I invite your careful attention to it. Mr Dimitry says the original figures put there by himself were 86.50 which he put by mistake, supposing at the moment that the deposite was 86.50, and that he afterwards altered it to 173, the actual weight of the deposite. Here the enquiry naturally rises why put down any weight at all, before the deposite is actually weighed? and if the 86.50 (the average weight of $100) was put there first, and if on weighing it was found to be 173 ozs, the usual weight of $200, and the actual weight receipted for, why, on correcting the 86 to 173, was not the correction carried further by striking out the 50 which then became redundant and being retained there still left the entry wrong. Here then according to Mr Dimitrys own statement he has already committed two mistakes, first by putting the weight before melting 86.50, and next, when attempting to correct the entry, leaving it 173.50 instead of 173. To my eye it appears now like 183.50, and so it seems it would be taken by others; for Parker, who it appears was not instructed how to copy it upon the new sheet, copied it 183.50. I have shown that Mr Dimitry made two Mistakes, if he wrote 173 over what he says was originally 86-; but if he turned the 86 into 183, then also he made a mistake in favor of the depositor of 10 ozs. In either case, then, there were two Mistakes with regard to this single entry. Mr Dimitry says this deposite was sent out a very little while after, on the same day, under the No. 100 to the Melter and Refiner to be melted for assay; and so says Mr Ducoin, the incongruity of other parts of whose testimony I shall presently notice. Now here

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it is evident that if Mr Dimitry did send out the Casas deposite he was committing a disobedience of the Superintendents Orders; for it appears by his own entry in the weighing Book that the Casas Bullion was Mexican Dollars, and it appears conclusively by the testimony of Mr Bradford and others, that before the date of this deposite, the Superintendent had ordered that such deposits should be reserved till they amounted to a sufficiency (say from 1500 to 2000 ozs or thereabouts) to make a full melt. To send therefore this deposit to be melted by itself was a positive breach of the Superintendents Orders; and if done, shewed either official negligence or official insubordination. But here a difficulty arises; both the Melter & Refiner, and one of his men, and the Superintendent, and Mr Dimitry, agree that the Melter and Refiner on that very Morning complained that the Superintendants order was that Morning disobeyed by sending to the Melter & Refiner some small deposits. Now three small deposites, besides Casas, were received that day at the Mint, all Mexican Coins as is shewn by the Weighing Book; two were received at the Weigh Room before, and one after, Casas; which of these four deposites was sent to the Melter and Refiner? We have upon this point no positive evidence except Ducoin's, on whose Memory it will be hereafter shewn he ought not himself to rely - How is this difficulty to be solved? I know but one way to account for it to wit, that some of these small deposites did go to the Melters Room, and on Maxwell's Complaint were returned again to the Weigher's Office. It might have been Topham's Deposite, or La Croix's

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(p. 3)

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or Casas, or Ducoin's - for any of them would come
the Melt ordered to be reserved. And moreover,

gain to the Weigher's Office. It might have been Graham's Deposite, or La Grange's

or Casas, or Guerin's - for any of these would come under the Clause ordered to be reserved'. And moreover, is it not natural to suppose that, Maxwell complaining, and the Superintendent immediately reiterating his Order that such deposites should be reserved, the Casas' deposite, or which ever deposite it was that was sent to the Melter & Refiner, should have been forthwith returned? And this, by the way, would accord with Leaick's testimony, who swears but one deposite was melted that day, to wit, Tichenor's, which like the four others was received on the 16th April and consisted partly of Hammered dollars and partly of French Crowns. It is here to be observed, that even if the Casas' deposite did go to the Melter and Refiner, that fact would not be sufficient to make him chargeable with it, for according to Mr Dimitry's own shewing, it came back after melting, to the Weigh Room - Now as far as the mere entry in the proper column of the Weighing Book goes, it would seem this deposite of Casas was melted, and weighed after melting. But observe, the weight after melting is put down 183.50 - this was 10 ozs more than the Weight which Mr Dimitry himself receipted for to Casas, and which he says he put down as the corrected weight before melting in the Weigh Book. This was so singular a circumstance, if it actually happened, that a deposit of 173 ozs Moulds comes back 183.50, that the Weigher should have observed it at once and notified it immediately, to the Melter and Refiner, and to the Superintendent or the Treasury. Yet it does not appear that this was done. The night documentary evidence we have

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might have been Topham's Deposit, or La Grange's

or Casas, or Guerin's - for any of these would come under the Class ordered to be reserved'. And moreover, is it not natural to suppose that, Maxwell complaining, and the Superintendent immediately reiterating his Order that such deposites should be reserved, the Casas' deposite, or which ever deposite it was that was sent to the Melter & Refiner, should have been forthwith returned? And this, by the way, would accord with Leavick's testimony, who swears but one deposite was melted that day, to wit, Richeno's, which like the four other was received on the 16th April and consisted partly of Hammered dollars and partly of French Crowns. It is here to be observed, that even if the Casas' deposite did go to the Melter and Refiner, that fact would not be sufficient to make him chargeable with it; for according to Mr Dimitry's own shewing, it came back after melting, to the Weigh Room - Now as far as the mere entry in the proper column of the Weighing Book goes, it would seem this deposite of Casas was melted, and weighed after melting. But observe, the weight after melting is put down 183.50 - this was 10 ozs more than the Weight which Mr Dimitry himself receipted for to Casas, and which he says he put down as the corrected weight before melting in the Weigh Book. This was so singular a circumstance, if it actually happened, that a deposit of 173 ozs Mould comes back 183.50, that the Weigher should have observed it at once and notified it immediately, to the Melter and Refiner, and to the Superintendent or the Treasurer. Yet it does not appear that this was done. The night documentary evidence we have

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Doc. 20.

of this Casas' deposite is exhibited by the Assayers Report. Now according to the usage of the Mint and the express instructions of the Director, the Assayers Report, so far as regards the name of the Depositor, the gross weight and the date of the deposite, are filled up by the Treasurers Clerk; and it appears also that at this Branch the Treasurers Clerk numbers the Report. Such a Report was prepared by Dimitry and was sent in to the Assayer who reported on some Assay piece which he received at the same time. The Report was numbered 100. to correspond with the original number of Casas Deposite on the Torn Sheet - But it seems that there was a Bar of Tichenors deposite that was numbered 100, having been altered in the Weigh Room by Leavick from 99.2 to 100. Was not then the Assay piece for the Casas Report taken from this Bullion? It is established by actual weight of the Bar 100 after the difficulty arose, that the Bar thus stamped 100 (the original countermark 2 still appearing) was necessary to complete the weight of Tichenors deposite; a very strange and remarkable coincidence if it were not really a part of Tichenors deposite. On the other hand, it is observable, that the fineness of this Bar 100 does not correspond to the usual title of French Crowns; but some of the French Crowns may have been counterfeit and thus reduced the fineness of the melted mass. This conjecture seems much more reasonable than to suppose the coincidence of a bar of the Casas' deposite (which by the way having been only 173.50, we cannot suppose could have been divided into two Melts) weighing exactly enough to make up the weight of Tichenors deposite.

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only 1,[illegible]50, we cannot suppose could have been

divided into two Melts, weighing exactly enough to make up the weight of Tichenor's deposite. Some confusion moreover may have arisen in the Assay Pieces; for it seems an Assay piece that had not been used was found in the Assayer's Office while the matter was under investigation on the 24th by the Superintendent. I think it moreover an important fact, that Dr. Hart at this early period, while the matter was fresh before him, and after he had attentively considered the circumstances of the Case, should

Doc. 91 have declared his entire conviction that a mistake had occurred, that he had not assayed the Casas Bullion, and that bar 100 was a portion of the Tichenor deposite. Indeed the Doctor asked that his Report of Assay, purporting to be of the Casas Bullion, should be returned to him.

It is observable that the Assayer declares in his Letter of 25th April on the Subject of this

Doc. 91. Casas' Affair that he made the Assay on Saturday the 20th instant. If he had stated merely the day of the Month, it would be more likely that he should have made some mistake; but he recollects also the day of the Week. Now he wrote this Letter only five days after the 20th, to wit on Thursday the 25th. Hence if the Assayer be correct, it seems that here is another irregularity on the part of the Treasurers Clerk; for the report of Assay is dated the 18th April. But if the Report was handed to the Doctor on the 18th, and he did not make the Assay till the 20th, might not a mistake with regard to the

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Assay piece be more likely to occur than if the Assay were made immediately after the reception of them?

In further illustration of the irregularity of entries made by Mr Dimitry, at this period, let me observe that the words "after melting" are written under a great many of the deposites received about this time. But under the Casas deposite is only written the words "paid in small change" If the Casas deposite was sent to the Melter, and melted, why were the words "after melting", which appear so frequently under other deposites that were actually melted, omitted here? On the day the Casas deposite came and on the day after, the weighing Book seems to have been irregularly kept with regard to the usual Memorandum. Thus, if you look at the two torn leaves, you find the words "after melting" written under Topham's, Guerin's, and Villaglia's deposites, which Mr Dimitry says were not melted; and these words are not written under the Casas deposite, which he says was melted. This is certainly very incongruous and loose.

Doc.° 19 & 20.

After these various irregularities, it appears that a new Clerk, Mr Parker, was appointed to the Weigh Room, Mr Dimitry taking upon himself after that period the duties of Treasurers Clerk. He had before this period performed the duty both of Treasurers Clerk and Weigher. To this new Clerk Mr Dimitry gives an order to tear out two leaves from the Weighing Book, and to copy certain of the

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entries, excluding from once deposits intended to

given an order to tear out two leaves from the Weighing Book, and to Copy certain of the

entries, excluding four small deposits intended to be ~~returned~~ reserved, to wit, Topham's, Lacroix's, Guerin's, and Villazubia's. This instruction was given without any previous communication with the Treasurer, a part of whose records it was, nor with the Superintendent, nor with the Melter & Refiner. Thus to mutilate an important Record Book of the Mint seems to me very irregular, especially without consultation with his superior Officers. The only excuse given by Mr. Dimitry is this. That he found by reserving some of the small deposits which had been regularly numbered as they came in, that the Numbers on the Weighing Book were thrown into confusion; that he set about correcting them in the Weighing Book; that this disfigured the pages; and being desirous to transfer a neat or clean book to the new Clerk, he ordered them to be torn out, and copied with the numbers thus changed and excluding Topham's, Lacroix's, Guerin's, and Villazubia's - which were deposits reserved for the full melt.

Here it is proper to note a circumstance of some importance with regard to the changing of the numbers on the torn out sheets. The original order of the Numbers was as follows:—

Berilly 96
Topham 97
Lacroix 98
Tichenor 99
Casas 100
Guerin 101
Atchafulaya Bt. 102
Villazubia 103
Piffet 104

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As the Weigher was about to exclude the small deposits intended to be reserved, he would necessarily number Tichenor 97, as he actually did. He appears to have passed from Tichenor over Casas' and Gurin, and put the Atchafalaya Bank 98. This impression is plainly deducable from the figures that lead the Atchafalaya Bank deposits. They have plainly been once altered from 102 to 98 – thus –

98~~2~~

and Piffit's was altered from 104 to 99 thus

99~~4~~

Why, at this first attempt to number, was the Casas deposits passed, except because at that moment (whenever it was that it was done) Mr. Dimitry considered Casas' as a deposit that was reserved to be melted with the other small deposits? It was afterwards, I presume, that the No. 98 was put over Casas' name, and then a new correction became necessary for the Atchafalaya Bank's, and it was put 99, and of course Piffitt's had to be changed from 99 to 100. These inferences are fairly deducible from the torn out leaves.

There might be some uncertainty from the oral testimony of Witnesses as to the period when these sheets were torn out; but two circum=stances enable us to approach very near the date. The torn sheets contain entries as late as the 20th. Hence it was as late as the twentieth that they were torn out. The Melter & Refiner when he came to receive Bullion for melting into ingots, evidently must have copied from the

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new entries of the torn sheets. These only were copied some time on the 20, 21, or 22 of April

into ingots, evidently must have copied from the

new edition of the torn sheets. Hence they were copied some time on the 20, 21, or 22 of April. Now here is a singular irregularity. Topham, Lacroix's, Guerin's and Villazubia's deposites were ordered by Mr Dimitry to be altogether omitted in copying upon the fair Sheets of the Weighing Book, and the torn sheets were flung into the Fire place. From that moment the Mint ceased to have any entry of those deposites upon its records; for those entries were not copied into any other Book. This might be perhaps explained away on the singular principle put forth with regard to the Gilpi case, that these small deposits were mere changes of dollar for dollar, and not necessary to be specially recorded and to go through the ordinary forms — a principle strangely inconsistent, be it remarked, with the Directors instructions, as I have already shewn in speaking of the Treasurers department. But this position would not explain the omission to record these four deposites elsewhere after destroying the original entries of them. For it seems according to Mr Dimitry's statement, that, finding it would be necessary to have some separate Memorandum of the reserved deposites, he resolved to keep a distinct Memorandum Book for that purpose;

Doc. 21 and accordingly a book has been exhibited bearing entries of small deposites from 8th to 22 April inclusive; why were not these four deposites, whose record in the weighing Book was thus destroyed, transferred to this small deposite Book?

I have obtained Copies from the Weighing

Doc. 22. Book as it now appears with the Copied entries, and you will observe that the deposites of

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Damian Casas there appears as weighing 183.50, both before and after Melting. When Mr Dimitry was instructing Mr Parker what entries he should omit and what he should copy on the fresh leaves of the Weighing Book, why was not some instruction given about copying the corrected figures exhibiting the weight before melting of this deposite? Nine persons out of ten would, I think, copy the entry 183.50. It was thus Mr Parker actually copied it. If it was meant for 173, Mr Parker should have been told of this, and directed also to omit the .50 which was copied upon the fresh leaf just as it stood upon the torn out leaf.

It appears that on the 20th April, Casas came for his Money, and brought with him of course the receipt given him at the time of making his deposite, and which still remains in the Records of the Mint, he having necessarily given it up upon payment. Here again another singular circumstance has occurred. With this receipt before Mr Dimitry's eyes, being for 173 oz, the true weight of the deposite when it came to the Mint, and whose value was just $200, Casas was paid, according to the statement of Mr Dimitry, $212 3/100 the value of 183.50. Casas swears he received but $199 98/100; he swears also he endorsed the Mint certificate on the blank side, as it remained in the Book, and which he did not turn over and read, as he had confidence in the Officers at the Mint. That the general usage was to sign the Mint certificate in the Book, when the making out the certificate and its payment were simultaneous

Doc. 27.

Doc. 28.

examination, when [illegible] then stated his belief that Casas signed [illegible] side in the Book. It was not usual [illegible] he thought that

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was proved by Mr Dimitry one evening while under examination; when interrogated upon the point he then stated his belief that Casas signed the certificate while in the Book. It was not until the next evening that Dimitry stated he thought that the Mint certificate had been cut out of the Book before Casas endorsed it, and he afterwards stated that Casas was kept a long while waiting in the Office, there being a good many people there and he having to wait for his turn. But upon this point we would suppose Mr Dimitry's recollection must be erroneous; for there were but three payments to depositors made at the Mint during that whole day, and but two deposits received. If we were to suppose the improbable coincidence that all the five depositors were at the Counter at the same Moment, some to deposit and some to get payment, and that Casas was the last in turn, it would hardly have kept him waiting a whole hour. Ducoin, when under examination by me, stated that he himself counted the Money and that it was exactly $200 - that it consisted of 20 Rouleaux of $10 each, making just $200; and he repeated again and again in answer to repeated enquiries, that he was sure it was $200, and no more, that was paid. Examined on behalf of the Superintendent, he suddenly states that it was $212, and that he had erred before from being confused and embarrassed by being brought up as a Witness. Again examined, he reiterates, he was sure it was exactly $212 that Casas received - that he gave him 21 packages of $10 each, and $2

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in loose dimes - that Casas put the 2 packages in his handkerchief and the $2 in dimes into his Pocket - that he was now sure it was exactly $212, neither more nor less, that was handed to Casas, and that he had made a Memorandum of this a few days afterwards. Being asked for this Memorandum, he said he had lost it. Some days afterwards he produced a Memorandum which he said was the one he had made, and which he had since found in his armoire at his room. Now here was still a discrepancy; for the amount charged as paid to Casas on the Books and expressed in the Mint certificate was $212.3/100. These are singular inconsistencies, and shew that the recollections of this Witness are very confused and uncertain, and cannot safely be relied on. But take the matter of this payment in either light. If $212 or $212 3/100 was actually paid to Casas, then he got for 173 ozs (whose value is $200) the value of 183.50 ozs to wit, $212.3/100. Was not this an injustice to the Mint? Suppose that the Casas deposite was actually melted; it could not possibly of itself, being but 173 ozs, produce by melting 183.50. A Mistake of the Melter by mixing other Bullion with it might increase its weight; but would such an accident in the Melter & Refiners Office justify the Treasurer's Clerk in putting into Casas Pocket $12 more than he was entitled to? But if on the other hand Casas is right, and did actually receive as he has sworn, only $200, then either the Treasurers Office or some one

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attached to it has pocketed $12 by the fraudulent or a mistake of $12 must necessarily occur

either the Treasurers Office or some one

attached to it has gained $12 by the operation, or a mistake of $12 must necessarily occur in an attempt to balance the Treasurers accounts for it is charged on the Treasurers Books as a payment of $212. Take the matter in either light, one of two conclusions is inevitable - either that the Government actually loses $12 by this deposite, or at least that the Treasurer's Books are thrown into confusion, and must exhibit in the attempt to balance them an error of $12 arising out of this transaction.

On the 22d the Melter and Refiner came to receive Bullion to melt into ingots, that is to say, Bullion that had passed through the process of melting into Bars and which had been assayed. It appears that on such occasions the usage of the Melter & Refiner was to bring his Book, copy from the weighing Book the depositors name and the gross weight, and the standard weight from the Assayers Report. Mr Maxwell says he proceeded to do so on that day, upon which it is plain he received several other deposites. He copied the Casas deposite with its particulars together with that of Tichenor's, the Alchafalaya Bank, Piffit, Zolla, Mc Duffie and Folley. It was plain he was copying from the new edition or fresh leaves of the Weighing Book, both from the Numbers and from the order of the deposites, which precisely accord with the numbers and order on the new leaves of the Weighing Book. This is additionally confirmed by the fact that he put down the gross weight of Zolla at 82, as it stands in the

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Doc 20.

new entry of the Weighing Book, and which is a variance from the torn leaf where the gross weight is put 82.05. (another instance of inaccuracy in the Weighing Room) - Now it was certainly unsafe for the Melter and Refiner thus to copy entries upon his weighing Book of Bullion received, before he had actually examined the Bullion to see whether he had got all he was thus entering. The fact of his thus entering the Casas deposits would be a very strong and perhaps an irresistable circumstance against him to shew he did receive it, if it were not accompanied by the explanation he gives, to wit, that it was his usage so to copy from the weighing Book and the Assayers Report. The excuse offered by this explanation is much strengthened by the two following facts - 1st That the Melter and Refiner has never attempted to mutilate his Records, either by tearing out the leaf from his Book and substituting new entries, or by an obliteration of entries, and 2d That on that very day he declared to the Weigher & Treasurer's Clerk that there was an error and that he had not received the Casas bullion. Finding that the Clerk insisted it was delivered to him, he demanded on that very day an investigation of the Superintendent, and on the succeeding day

Doc 19.

he demanded a public investigation of the affair in the presence of all the Officers of the Mint. This open and unflinching course in both the above particulars certainly does not wear the aspect of dishonesty or concealment.

You will observe the doubt and uncertainty which seems to have hung over

Mr Dimitry made, or no [illegible] in his testimony, with regard to the delivery of the

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Mr Dimitry's mind, or at least is exhibited in his testimony, with regard to the delivery of the Bullion (supposing it to have been melted for Assay) to the Melter & Refiner. Thus in the written statement prepared by him ~~[illegible]~~ 9 May 11th 1839, he says, as soon as the Assay pieces were taken from the Tichenor and Casas deposits, the Bullion was handed to the Melter and Refiner (an Act, by the way, which would be irregular, viz to give Bullion to the Melter & Refiner before Assay, and inconsistent with the Superintendent's Order-) but when under examination on the 24 May 1839 he says he does not recollect precisely what was done with the Casas Bullion after Assay, but it must have been returned to the Melter and Refiner the same day or the day after. All this is discrepant and uncertain. As for the latter statement, that it must have been handed to the Melter and Refiner the same day it was assayed or the day after-, I do not think it possible it could have been the same day; for that day was either the 18th which is the date of the Assayers Report, or the 20th, Saturday, which was the day the Assayer says he actually made the Assay- Now Maxwells Books exhibits no receipts of Bullion between the 16 & 22. On the 16th he received several parcels - on the 22d he received several others, and I have already shewn that Maxwell must have copied from the fresh entries in the Weighing Book, and that those fresh entries could not have been made before the 20th, and no attempt has been made to shew that the 22d was not the date at which he received

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Tichenor, or Zolla's or the Atchafalaya Bank's &c. It could not have been the 9th April, for that was Sunday, when we are to suppose no work was doing. What then is the consequence of all these considerations? Clearly, in the first place, that Mr Dimitry's testimony is uncertain and discrepant in itself – Secondly – that if we assume that it was delivered to the Melter and Refiner as soon as the Assay pieces were taken off, such delivery was irregular and inconsistent with the Superintendents Orders – Thirdly – that the date of Copying the tron leaves, the fact of Maxwells undoubtedly copying from the new entries in the Weighing Book, and of the date of the 22 being uncontradicted as to the receipt of the other parcels of bullion recorded on the Melter & Refiner Book, all render it very unlikely that it could have been delivered either on the 18th the nominal date of Assay, or the 20th the actual date of the Assay supposed at the time to be that of the Casas Bullion, and it is very clear that it could not have been delivered on the 21st which was Sunday. Thus all the dates of delivery suggested by Mr Dimitry seem at variance with circumstances.

But let us consider another fact. Parker became the Clerk of the Weigh Room on the 18th. Hence it became his duty to make deliveries of Bullion for Melting into ingots to the Melter and Refiner. Yet on the 22d April, the very day Mr Maxwell received Tichenor and the other Bullion, Parker says he told the Superintendent while Dimitry and Maxwell were disputing about the matter, that he

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Parker knew nothing about the Casas bullion, except the entries on the Weighing Book. Now

the Superintendent while Dimitry and Maxwell were disputing about the matter, that he Parker knew nothing about the Casas bullion, except the entries on the Weighing Book. There was Bullion received and alleged to be melted on the 16th April; Mr Parker took charge of the Weigh Room on the 18th. If it was delivered at all to Mr Maxwell, it could not without decided irregularity have been delivered till after it was Assayed, to wit till after the 20th; and if it was delivered, how happens it that the delivery took place without any knowledge of the Officer properly charged with such delivery?

While the Affair was thus in dispute between the Treasurers Clerk and the Melter and Refiner, it seems one or other proposed that it should be ascertained how much Mexican Money was in the Treasurers Vaults as reserved deposites, and then see whether the amount of reserved deposites, exclusive of the Casas, would make up the sum. The reserved Bullion in the Treasurers vault was found to be $ 1300. When they came to calculate the deposites exclusive of Casas, Dimitry says they found the total to be $ 1300. Maxwell says on the contrary that they did not agree, but that there was more than a sufficient deficit to admit of the Casas Bullion forming a part of what was in the Treasurers Vault. One or other of them is clearly mistaken; and here again no resource seems left but to refer to the Treasurers Books. Among the Books whence Dimitry gathered the items of the small deposits reserved, was the Memorandum wherein he made entries of small deposits

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reserved. A copy of this you will find among the documents. Now among them is one of $100 headed Allume & Taviany. When they came to consult this Book, Maxwell says this entry was then crossed out as though a null or mistaken entry. In spite of its being thus crossed out, Mr Dimitry insisted it should be counted, and wrote under it the Word "Right" thus restoring it. Here was another very strange proceeding. If a deposite from Allume & Taviany never came to the Mint and the entry had been stricken out as a null and mistaken entry, what right had Mr Dimitry who was not the Clerk of the Weigh Room, thus to reinstate it? The original entry was put there, and I suppose stricken out too, by Mr Parker, who was the proper Custodian of this Book. To restore the entry in this off hand way, seems as arbitrary and irregular a proceeding, as the tearing out the leaves from the Weighing Book without consulting the Treasurer, or the altering the Assayers Report of the supposed Casas Bullion from 100 to 98 after the Assayer had returned his Report and entirely without his knowledge. Again, Mr Maxwell says he is strongly of the impression that when they examined the small deposite Book the entry in Gilpi's case of $200 was not there. Of this case of Gilpi I have already spoken, as exhibiting the extraordinary irregularity of the Treasurers Office. If Gilpi's deposite were not actually in the Mint at that time and Allume & Taviani's were a mistaken entry - then here was more than

enough of the $100 to make up the Casas deposite and leave it to the Treasurer

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enough of the $1500 left to make up the Casas deposite and trace it to the Treasurer's Vault, as still remaining there unmelted with the other small deposites.

And this indeed is the only way of accounting for the Casas' deposite without charging absolute fraud upon either Dimitry or Maxwell. When we consider all the ~~strange~~ extraordinary irregularities which about this time took place in the Weighing Book; and indeed we may say in the whole course of business with regard to Deposites in the Treasurers' Office; when we observe how carelessly entries in the Books were made, and how inconsiderately those Books were mutilated or corrected; when we remember that it is in evidence that the Money received in the shape of these small deposites was not kept distinct from the Monies used for the ordinary expenses of the Mint; in short when we find such a scene of confusion as is exhibited by the Treasurers Records, can we condemn the Melter and Refiner either by those Records, or by the vague and discordant recollections of the Witnesses who had charge of the business there? — For my part, I cannot condemn the Melter and Refiner on such uncertain Grounds. I deem it more charitable to all parties to suppose that the Casas Bullion had got mixed with the other Silver in the Treasurer's Vault.

At all events it is clear, that this Bullion did enter the Treasurer's Office, and the legal responsibility was fixed there by

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its receipt from Casas. If it be sought to throw that legal responsibility upon the Melter and Refiner, the burden of proof rests with the Treasurer and his Officers; and I do not think that sufficient evidence has been adduced to shew that the Melter & Refiner received the Bullion either in the shape of coins or bars - either to melt for assay, or to cast into ingots. The Melter and Refiner is charged with dishonesty with regard to this deposite; but, after the most serious consideration, I cannot believe or pronounce him guilty.

What has become of this Bullion, whether it has been purloined by some visiter or Workman at the Mint, or has been mixed with other Bullion in the Treasurers Office, or has been paid away for ordinary expences, is a mystery that has defied my ingenuity, and which will probably never be unravelled. But this case, with all the excitement, bitterness & hatred it has produced, and with all the irregularity, looseness, and confusion it has developed, may well form to every Officer of the Mint a warning too serious to be readily forgotten. The amount in dispute was small, but the principle involved was a vital one, touching nearly, not only the characters of the Officers, but that method, good order, and strictness which should be at the very foundation of such an institution. If that lesson has been even in some slight degree enforced by the late investigation at the New Orleans Mint, the labor that has been

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bestowed by all the parties interested in it

bestowed by all the parties interested in it will not have been entirely thrown away.

Accompanying this Report I beg leave to submit to you a large mass of documents, some of greater, some of less importance, but all as I believe deserving your attention, as elucidating the mode in which the business of the Mint has been conducted and its present condition, a List and Index of them is herewith submitted, to facilitate your reference to and examination of them To dilate fully upon all these documents would carry me into very great detail, moreover I have deemed it better with regard to many of them to submit them to your better judgment without remarks by myself which might too often be crude and unsatisfactory. While inviting your attention to these documents generally, without which much of the testimony would be unintelligible I would request your particular consideration to the following to which with a very few exceptions no special reference has yet been made in this Report.

Document 54. Exhibits a statement of out=standing Mint certificates and mint receipts.

Document 55. Exhibits a statement of the Gold and Silver Bullion in the Treasurers Vault at the close of 30 June 1839.

Document 56. Exhibits a statement of the cash on hand in the Treasurers possession & to his credit at the same date.

Document 57. Exhibits a Statement of the expenditures of the New Orleans Branch Mint from 1 January to 30 June 1839.

Document 58. 59. 60. 61. 62. 63. 64. 65. exhibit

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Statements furnished by the Treasurer, Melter and Refiner, and coiner respectively, of the amount of Bullion from time to time transferred to and by these Officers respectively and the amount of coin struck in certain Months, exhibiting also statements of balances on 30 June 1839. In calling for these Exhibits from the three Officers respectively, I thought it advisable to require that each should prepare his statement from the Books and data in his own Office without reference to the Books and accounts in other departments. You will observe in these statements very decided and important discrepancies. For example the Treasurers statement charges the Melter and Refiner with a Balance of Gold Bullion on 30 June 1839 of 1395 oz. 231 dwts.* The Melter and Refiner on the contrary acknowledges to have in his possession at that date 1420 oz. 662 dwts. The Treasurer charges the Melter and Refiner with a balance of Silver Bullion on 30 June 1839 of 13.356.33. But the Melter and Refiner acknowledges a balance on that date of only 13.761.10. The Treasurer charges the coiner with a Balance on 30 June 1839 of 71.196.- the Coiner acknowledges a Balance in his possession on that day of 71.557.75- There are also other discrepancies which you will observe in comparing these statements.

In concluding this Report I deem it my duty to acknowledge that my inexperience with

*Note The Treasurers statements are dated 1 July 1839 the Melter & Refiners 30 June 1839, But this is unimportant with reference to the discrepancy of the amounts as the requisition was for statements to close of 30 June & the several parties prepared their statements with reference to that requisition

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statements with reference to that requisition

regard to the operations of the Mint and generally in relation to the subjects to be investigated has been seriously embarrassing to myself and hence I am led to fear that many points may have been over=looked ~~not~~ as to which information would have been desirable to you and to the Secretary of the Treasury. Such omissions will I hope be attributed to the cause above stated and not to an indiff=erence to the duty assigned to me.

I am Sir,

Very respectfully

Your obedt. Servt.

August - 1839

Thomas Shields

U. S. Atty for the Eastern District of Louisiana

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List of documents.

No.		No.	
1	Acts of Congress respecting mint	22	Cop from Margin of Mint Certif Bk
2	Instructions of Directors	23	Extract from Reg of Silver Bullion
3	Letter of Sect May 20th	24	Extracts from Bullion Journal
4	Letter of Dr. Patterson to J. Dallas	25	Copies of certain entries from Weight Book & register, with Copy Assayers Report
5	Charges of D. Bradford		
6	Statmt of Dimitry		
7	Mr Bradfords Letter to T.S. June 14. 1839	26	Copies of four Assayers Report
8	Bradfords further reasons for believing Maxwell dishonest	27	Copies of two receipts to Casas & Tickenor.
		28	Copies of Mint certif in cases of Casas & Tickenor
9	Parkes statement	29	Extract from Bullion Journal
10	Maxwells Statment	30	Account of Mr Dimitry of small deposits received
11	Conners statmt		
12	Maxwells Statmt with regard to Doctor Hart	31	Extract from Silver Weight Book in case of Lizarde.
13	Dr. Harts reply to Maxwells statmt	32	Original document filed by Maxwell & referred to in testimony of Bradford July 4. 1839.
14	Maxwells additional Statmt against Hart	33	Orig: doc: filed by Maxwell
15	Harts reply thereto	34	Acct Melter & Refiner with treasurer Original
16	Lapenes statmt		
17	Remarks of Garcia	35	Copy from Maxwells Silver acct Bk
18	Testimony of following witnesses (& states of proceedings)	36	Memorandum in handwriting of Maxwell
19	Four Leaves from Wt Book	37	Treasurer in account with Melter & Refiner being an acct referred to by Bradford in his testimony of 4 July 1839.
20	Copies from Wt Book		
21	Extract from male [illegible]	38	Statement of Assays furnished by Dr. Hart

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	Copy of Memorandum from Dr. Hart Mem Book in case of Lizards		
	Cop of Mem from Dr. Hart		
	Mem in case of Exchange Banking Company		
	Mem of Contract between Denny & Tyler		
42	Copy Protest of Mint certif	No 17	
43	Copy Protest do	47	
44	"	16	
45	"	-	
46	-	23	
47	-	24	
48	-	24	
	-	22	
49	Assay piece & Mem relating thereto		
52	Mem respect. Casas deposits		
53	Stat of Warrants		
54	Stat of outstanding Mint certif & Mint receipts		
55	Statments of Gold & Silver Bullion in treasurers vault		
56	Statmt of Cash on hand		
	Statmt of expenditures		
58	Melt & Refiner in acct with Treasurer (gold)		
59	Melter & Refiner in acct with Treasurer (silver)		
60	Treasurer in acct with Melter & Refiner (gold)		
61	Treasurer in acct with Melter & Refiner (silver)		

No	
62	Statmt of Silver Bullion in vault of Melter & Refiner
63	Coiner in acct with Treasurer
64	Treasurer in acct with Coiner
65	Treasurer in acct with Coiner
66	Letter of Dr. Patterson to Mr. Bradford June 28th 1837
67	do Mr. Tyler to Mr. Bradford 1st Jany 1838
68	do Dr. Patterson to Mr. Tyler Feby 27th. 1838
69	do Mr. Tyler to Mr. Bradford Feby 27th 1838
70	Dr. Patterson to Mr. Bradford Feby 28. 1838
71	do Mr. Tyler to Mr. Bradford 2d Apl. 1838
72	do Dr. Patterson to Mr. Bradford
73	Letter of Mr. Bradford to Mr. Maxwell June 29. 1838
74	Letter Dr. Patterson to Mr. Bradford July 7. 1838.
75	do Mr. Bradford to Dr. Patterson July 17. 1838.
76	do Mr. Tyler to Mr. Bradford July 31st 1838
77	do Mr. Bradford to Mr. Shaffer Jany 14. 1839.
78	do Mr. Bradford to Mr. Tyler Jany 30. 1839
79	do. Mr. Bradford to Dr. Patterson Feby 1839.
80	do Forstace to Bradford Feby 16. 1839

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Feby 27th 1839

do Patterson to Bradford 100
Feby 28. 1839.

do Bradford to Tyler 101
March 1st 1839

do Bradford to Tyler 102
March 12. 1839.

do Secretary of Treasury 103
Mr. Bradford March 20. 1839

Letter Forstall to Maxwell 104
March 21. 1839.

do Dr. Patterson to Mr 105
Bradford April 2. 1839.

do Mr. Tyler to Mr 106
Bradford. Apl. 16. 1839

do Mr. Maxwell to Dr. 108
April 24 1839

do do to do
April 24 1839

do Dr. Hook to Mr Bradford
April 25 1839

do the same to the same
May 16 1839

do Unfinished Letter of
Mr. Bradford on subject
of Casas deposits Apl. 25
1839

do Mr. Maxwell to Mr
Bradford Apl. 23. 1839

do Dr. Patterson to Mr
Maxwell May 7. 1839.

do Dr. Hook to Mr. Brad=
=ford. May 13. 1839.

do Dr. Hook to Mr
Bradford, May 13. 1839

Letter Dr. Patterson to Mr
Bradford May 22. 1839

June 7. 1839

do Mr. Bradford to Mr. Tyler
June 12. 1839

do Mr. Bradford to Mr
Tyler, June 14th 1839.

do Mr. Maxwell to Mr.
Bradford June 24th 1838.

do Mr. Maxwell to Mr.
Bradford July 1st 1839.

do Mr. Bradford to Mr. Maxwell

do Mr. Bradford to Mr. Tyler
July 13. 1838.

do Copies of sundry Letters
as follows

copies of sundry Letters.

Letter of Mr. Bradford to
Hook

1839

Report

of Thomas Slidell
United States District
Attorney &c respecting
the United States Branch
Mint at New Orleans

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Mint of the United States
March 12th 1839

Sir,

I take the liberty of sending to you, by this mail a pair of half dollar dies, for the Mint at New Orleans, which I pray you to forward, as heretofore, under your frank.

Very respectfully,
Your faithful Servant

To
Hon. Levi Woodbury,
Secretary of the Treasury,

RG104 Entry 11

Mint of the U. S.
March 14. 1839.

Sir,

On the 26th. ult., I sent you thro' the Sec. of Treasy, two pairs of half dollar dies.

On the 12th. inst., I sent you one pair of half dollar dies.

I this day send you two pairs of quarter eagle dies. Please to acknowledge the receipt of them as they come to hand.

We are now getting dime & half-dime dies ready for you, and they will be sent in two or three days.

Very

(Signed) R. M. Patterson
Director.

To/
David Bradford, Esq.
Supt. Br. Mint,
New Orleans.

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Mint of the United States,
March 14. 1839.

Sir,

I send you, by this mail, a box containing two pairs of quarter-eagle dies, which I pray you to forward, under your frank as heretofore, to the Branch Mint at New Orleans.

Yours

R. M. Patterson
Director.

To/
Hon. Levi Woodbury
Sec. of Treasury.

RG104 Entry 11

Treasury Department
March 15. 1839.

Sir,

The package, containing dies for the New Orleans Branch Mint came to hand this morning and will be forthwith forwarded to New Orleans.

I remain very Respy
Your Obedt. Sert
Levi Woodbury
Sec. of the Treasury

Dr. R. M. Patterson
Director of the Mint
Philada.

RG104 Entry 11

Treasury Department
March 15. 1839

Sir

In reply to your several communications of the 12th., received this morning I have to state -

1st. That the draft for $30000 was remitted to you at the request of the superintendent of the Branch Mint at New Orleans - for the purpose of refunding to the "Director about $2000 - which he had paid for Articles, "for this Branch and to procure a supply of acids and "other Materials for this Institution" - A requisition was made by the superintendent of the Branch at Dahlonega for $1200 to be remitted to you - but being informal was returned for correction - as soon as it shall be received in the proper form the draft will be sent

2 - In relation to the contemplated increase of the deposit at Dahlonega for the prompt payment of Depositors - it will not, it is apprehended, be in the power of the Department to

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to increase the amount now on deposite in that Branch, for some time to come, unless it can be spared from the Mint at Philadelphia.

8th As relates to the proposed engagement of the Bank of America to procure for the Mint a supply of metal for coinage, from Mexico and South America I can only remark, that so soon as the state of the Treasury will admit, I am willing to place the necessary amount of funds in the Mint to enable you to enter into such an arrangement. From present appearances, however, that is not likely to be the case during the current year. On the contrary, so far from being able to increase the amount now there, it is probable I shall be compelled, however reluctantly, to reduce that amount by, ~~probably~~, one or two hundred thousand dollars.

I remain very respectfully
Your Obt. Servt.
Geo. W. Bibb
Sec. of the Treasy.

Dr. R. M. Patterson
Director of the Mint
Phila.

U. S. B. Mint New Orleans
March 16th 1839

Sir,

I send by this Mail to the Secy of the Treasy a small box, containing assay pieces taken from ingots, to be forwarded to you under his frank.

On the other leaf of this letter you have a list of the same and the fineness corresponding with the envelopes of the pieces in the Box.

I remain,

Your Faithful Servant
David Bradford
Supt.

To
Dr R M Patterson
Director
Mint
Philad.

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From
David Bradford, Esq.
Supt. Br. Mint,
New Orleans
Dated March 16
Recd " 29 } 1839

Mint
Philad.

Returned assay-pieces taken from the Ingots of the Melter & Refiner, and found to be within the standard as per the return of the assayer

		Fineness.
No.	1	901.3
	2	900.4
	3	899.9
	4	900.4
	5	899.9
Rejected	6	
do	7	
	8	901.3
do	9	
	10	900.8
do	11	
do	12	
	13	901.3
	14	900.8
	15	898.6
	16	898.6
	17	900.4
	18	898.2
	19	900.4

Approved, March 15th 1839
David Bradford
Supt.

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Treasury Department
March 16. 1839.

Sir

The box containing dies for N. Orleans and the package containing cancelled certificates for Charlotte N.C., referred to in your communications of the 14. have been received and forwarded.

I remain Very Respy
Your Obedt. &c
[illegible]
Sec. of the Treasy.

Dr. R. M. Patterson
Director of the Mint
Philade.

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U S B Mint New Orleans
March 13th 1839

Sir

Your letter of the 28th ult. was received yesterday and I feel truly thankful to you for it, and I assure you, Sir, no exertion shall be wanting on my part to meet the views of the Secretary of the Treasury and yourself.

The two pair of half dollar dies also arrived yesterday and as Mr. Tyler has a quantity of planchettes of that denomination, I have requested him to strike them with as little delay as possible, so that our treasurer may pay off his Certificates and augment the Circulation of our Coins which is exceedingly desired.

On the 2nd inst. I requested the Sec'y of the Treas'y to issue a warrant in your favor for $3000, to pay the balance due you by our treasurer and put you in funds to procure materials for this Branch. Mr. Maxwell some time ago requested me to write you to get and send us about three hundred Dollars worth of Nitric and Sulphuric acid in equal quantities. We are at a loss what to do with the empty Car Boys. Mr. Maxwell thinks their freight back would be more than they would be worth. Would I be authorized in selling them or having them sold at Auction? The latter is the Course in the military and naval service. Mr. Maxwell also wished me to ask you the price of sand crucibles as there is a gentleman here who ~~offers to sell~~ has on hand and has had for twenty years, at cost, he says, and Mr. M. thinks they would at times be very useful, but none of us have any idea of the prices of such articles.

I remain Your Faithful Humble Servant
David Bradford, Sup't.

RG104 Entry 11

Branch Mint New Orleans March 18th 1839

Dear Sir

Your very kind letter of the 8th instant came duly to hand. Permit me to return you my grateful acknowledgements for the prompt and obliging manner in which you have disposed of my money concerns, and likewise for your friendly regards and advice in relation to my duties as an Officer of this Branch of the Mint.

In regard to Mr Spoffords case I cheerfully submit to your decision, but as his case appears to me a peculiarly unfortunate one, permit me to recommend him to your favorable consideration in reference to his pay, as I understand that matter to be left to your decision by our superintendant — I understand he intends ~~[illegible]~~ taking his passage for your city in a few days

Your anxiety "that good feeling and cordial cooperation should be restored among the Officers of this "Branch Mint" will by no means be disregarded by me and especially would I have the "President" find me in the line of my duty, and devoting all my energies to the rendering our "operations" "as efficient and creditable as possible"

No one is more willing than myself to acknowledge the authority of a superior Officer, but I pray you to consider my situation as a peculiarly trying one and which would be only rendered more difficult by any injudicious interference in the internal policy of my department, I trust however that hence forward all the Officers of this Branch will act and feel towards each other as becomes their several stations, and as the public service imperatively demands — I am happy to say to you that I have now no fault to find with the New Weigh Master Mr Dimitry — as far as my opportunities of

of judging extend he being a person of excellent business habits, and an estimable man — Altogether the condition of our affairs appears to me to be rapidly improving and I pray that the exertions I have made and in which I have had no alternative in order to promote so desirable a result, may not have rendered me obnoxious to the lasting displeasure of our Superintendant

As to the condition &c. of my department I am requested by ~~on~~ the Superintendant to report to him by the last of this month — This report with my former reports to him he has informed me that he intends forwarding to you, You will then have a general outline (though very imperfect) of my operations and proceedings from the commencement, in one view.

A question has lately presented itself to my mind in regard to the security afforded to this Building by the lightning rods affixed to it — As this is a matter beyond my knowledge to determine, I take the liberty of presenting it to your ~~[illegible]~~ better judgement — These rods of which there are three in number one at each of the wings and one at the main or center part of the building

Each rod when it runs along the roof has to be supported at intervals to keep it clear of the building — These supports are iron posts several inches high fastened to the roof and terminating in a loop at the upper end through which the rod passes, the insulation at these points is effected by lining the loops with horn — 4 or 5 inches, cut from the hollow end of the horn is fitted into the loop and the rod passed through

The striking distance in some instances does not exceed 1½ inches admitting the parts to be dry — The discharges of lightning in this region, are tremendous, beyond any thing ever witnessed at the North — Under these circumstances, do the rods afford us the best practicable? ~~C~~ Please to inform Mr Espy, Master of the Ship Cheper, (Mr Hamilton) lately had "a near view of the most splendid he ever saw" Mr E will doubtless find his interesting and possibly useful to the cause he is so indefatigably labouring, and I feel a deep interest myself — On my part I took occasion to bore the Captain with [illegible] but he did not seem to think there was much he is now satisfied of the fact of an [illegible] in all violent storms, as he says he could the water streak it up the centre of the [illegible] pass at it, close, within fifty yards of [illegible]

Most respectfully
Your [illegible]

Prof

Dr R. M. Patterson
Director of the Mint
Philadelphia

RG104 Entry 11

...ecedent business habits, and
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circumstances, do the rods afford us the best protection practicable? Or Please to inform Mr Espy that Captain Marston of the Ship Keeper, (Mr Handy line) has lately had "a near view of the most splendid Water Spouts he ever saw" Mr E will doubtless find his account of it interesting and possibly useful to the cause in which he is so indefatigueably labouring, and in which I feel a deep interest my self — On my passage here I took occasion to bore the Captain with Mr Espy's theory but he did not seem to think there was much use in it he is now satisfied of the fact of an upward current of air in all violent Storms, as he says he could plainly see the water streak it up the centre of the column which was at its close, within fifty yards of his Ship

Most Respectfully

Your friend & Sr

Rufus Tyler

Dr R. M. Patterson
Director of the Mint
Philadelphia

RG104 Entry 11

Mint U S
March 19th, 39

Sir, I sent yesterday a box containing two pairs of dime dies for your Mint, to be forwarded under the front of the Secretary of the Treasury.

I have duly received, in a draft from the Treasury, three thousand dollars sent to me at your request and this sum is placed to your credit in the account with your Mint.

The plan of introducing a door in the flank or rather the rear front of your Mint building has been submitted to the Architect, Mr. Strickland, and is strongly protested against, as a great deformity. In this judgment I am sorry, on Mr. Tyler's account, to say, that I fully concur. It appears to us, however, that the object might be answered by placing a handsome gateway and flight of steps at the end of the flank, so as to lead up to the portico at the

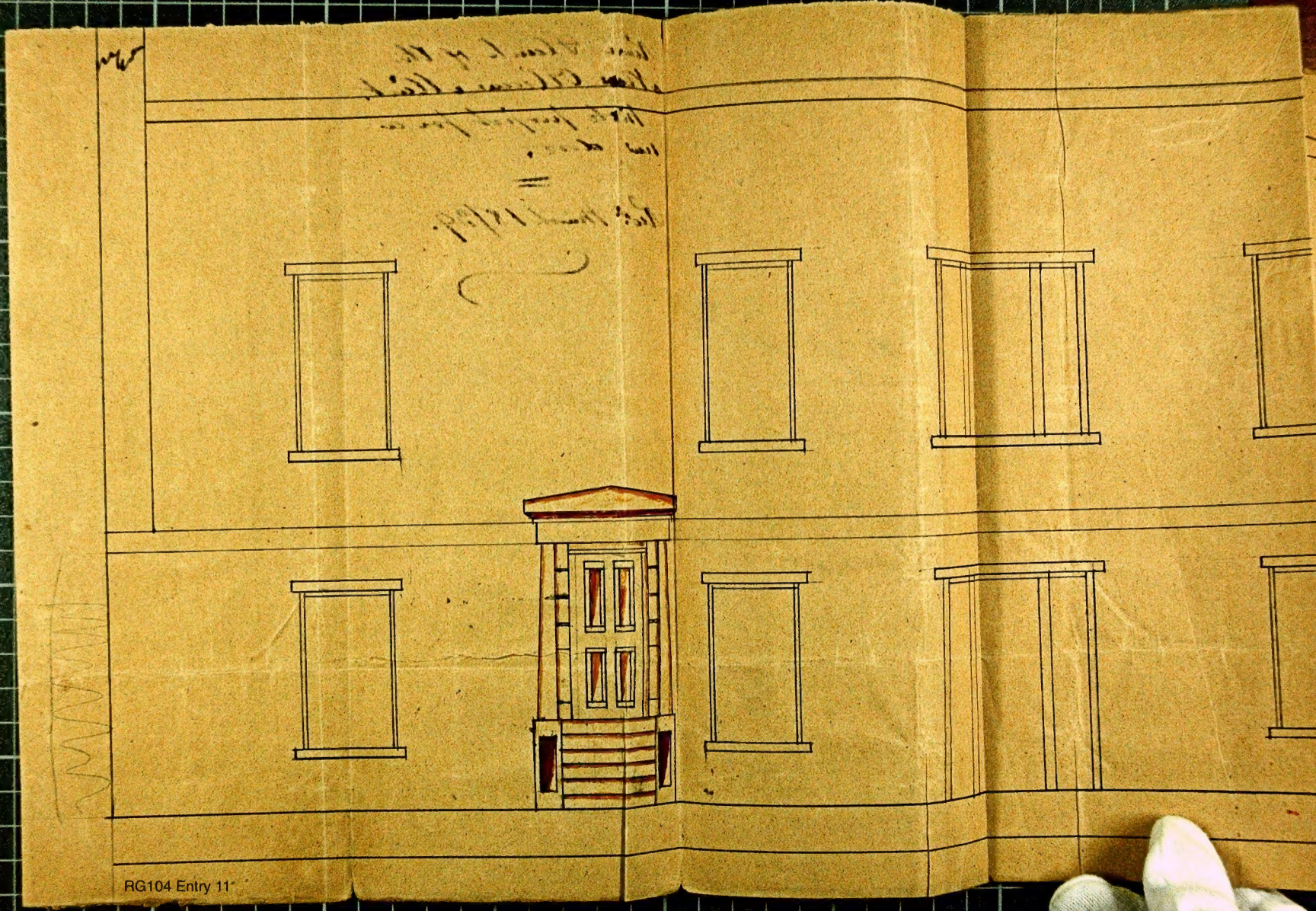
RG104 Entry 11

back of Mr. Tyler's address. I hope that this scheme is practicable, and that it will prove acceptable to Mr. Tyler. If the other is any objectionable.

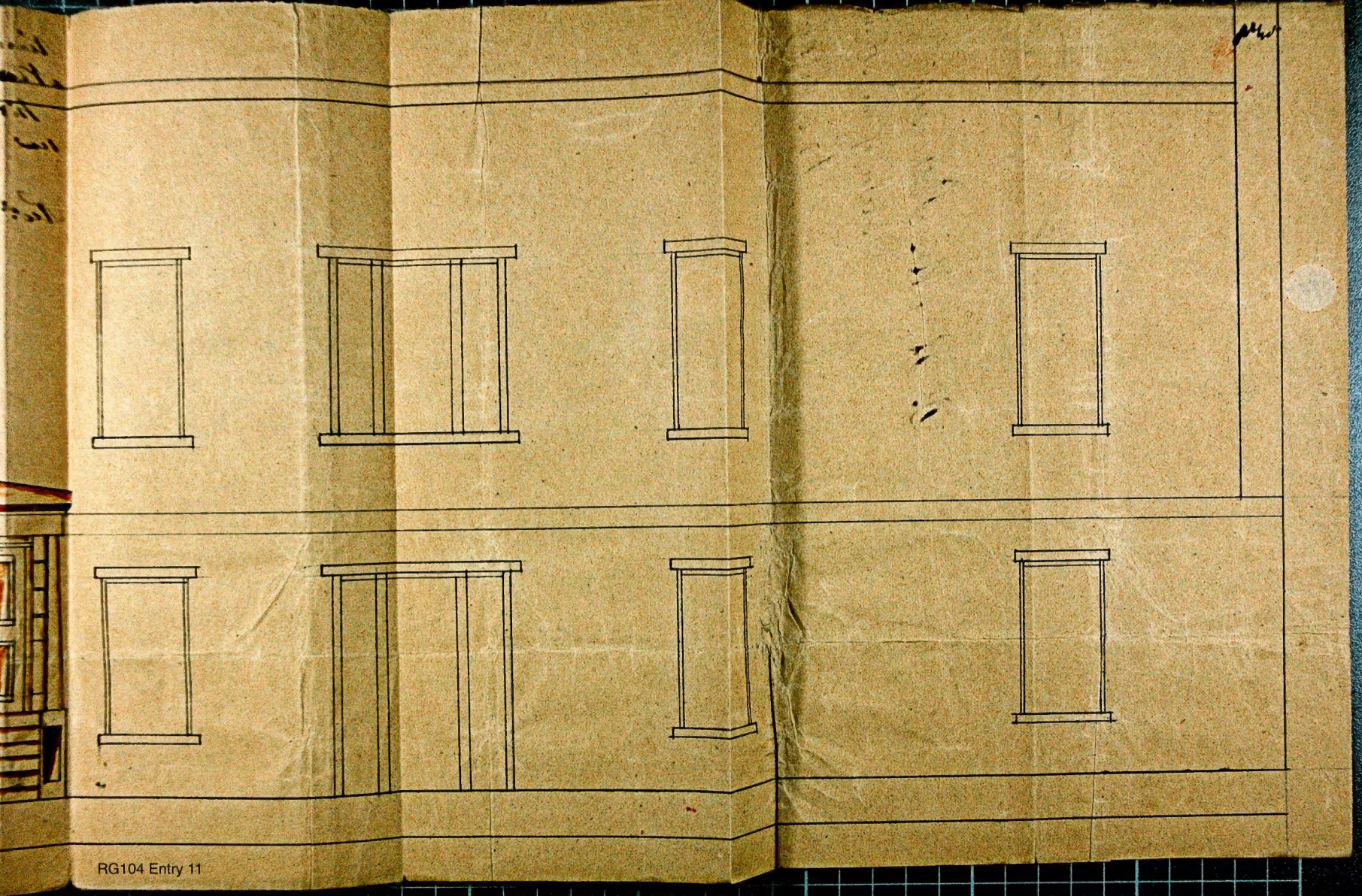
P. M. P.

To/
David Bradford, Esq.
Sup. Br. Mint,
New Orleans

RG104 Entry 11



RG104 Entry 11



RG104 Entry 11

Rear Flank of the
New Orleans Mint.
Note project for a
new door.

=

Recd March 18/39.

RG104 Entry 11

RG104 Entry 11

Mint of the United States,
March 22. 1839.

Sir,

I have duly rec'd your letter of the 13th inst. ~~in just reply~~, in which ~~you say~~ it is stated that on the 2d inst. you requested the Sec. of the Treasury to issue a Warrant in ~~your~~ my favor, for $3000, to pay the balance due ~~you~~ me by your Treasurer, & put me in funds to procure materials for your Branch.

The draft for $3000. was rec'd on the 13th inst, and leaving had no instructions in regard to it, I wrote to the Sec'y, to know its origin & object. He stated in reply that "it was remitted to me at your request, for the purpose of refunding to me about $2000, which I had paid for articles for your Br. &c."

From the above it is evident that you are under a ~~very obvious misapprehension~~ misapprehension in regard to the state of your account with me, tho' I am at a loss to determine how you received it. On the 25th of Jan. last, I forwarded to ~~your Treasurer~~ a full Statement of the account of your Branch, up to Dec. 31. 1838, at which date there remained, as ~~that~~ statement shows, a balance in your favor of $1,618.66. Since that time, this balance has been increased as follows: —

Balance Dec. 31st $1,618.66

Feb. 2 Cr. By 17 $\frac{24}{100}$ ounces Standard Silver, + $\frac{135}{1000}$ ounces Stand. Gold, – being the weight of the Slips transmitted from your Mint, during the year 1838, for assay here, + ~~according to~~ your $22.67

" By 3 $\frac{52}{100}$ ounces Stand. Silver, being, ~~the~~ re-served coins sent to this Mint for the annual Assay, + ~~according to~~ 4.10

" By 2 dimes, recd June 18. 38, as specimens of the first coinage of your Bk. .20

$1,645.63

Deduct amt. paid out since Dec. 31. 76.25

And your present balance in my hands is $1,569.38

On the 3d of December last, I advanced to Mr. Spofford, on your account, $323., which I explained to you in my letter, by Mr. Spofford, dated Dec. 5. '38, and which sum I requested should be repaid to me in your next remittance. This sum I have never taken from your funds here, as it could not properly appear in this act.; I have now deducted it however from your last remittance of $3000., and have placed to your credit the balance, viz: $2,677, which added to the balance $1,569.38, as above, makes the whole sum standing ~~to your credit~~ to the credit of your Treasurer in my hands — $4,246.38.

I ~~therefore~~ enclose ~~a~~ Mr. Spofford's receipt, though I presume the amount of it was accounted for in your settlement with him.

The acids for Mr. Maxwell's department ordered immediately. We think you can ha (Nitric + Sulphuric) "in equal quantities" portion in Mr. Pealy's department is about of the former to 1 of the latter.

In regard to your empty carboys, I ~~that they cost you here, "boxed + capped"~~ ~~If of course to be ~~therefore~~ ~~that them~~ ~~you can judge therefore whether to ~~buy them~~~~ ~~we doubt that they ought to be ~~bought~~ ~~them returned would be most advisable~~~~ Respectfully, Sir, Your humble Svt. Alex.

The Sand Crucibles which were last (in Aug. '38 ~~last~~) cost 60 cents a nest; two Nov. 1837 cost 50 cents a nest.

R. M

* They cost you here, "boxed + capped", $1.50

~~P. S. We send you to-day the freight~~

RG104 Entry 11

Dec. 31st $1,618.66
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Dec. 31. 76.25
my hands is $1,569.38
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nds — $4,246.38.
Spofford's receipt,
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t him.

The acids for Mr. Maxwell's department will be ordered immediately. We think you can hardly want them (Nitric + Sulphuric) "in equal quantities". The proportion in Mr. Peale's department is about 4 carboys of the former to 1 of the latter.

In regard to your empty carboys, I can only say that they cost you here, "boxed + capped", $1.50 each. It appears to me, therefore, that they can be sold at Mr. Peale's, in the limits of the Mint.*

The Sand Crucibles which were last sent to you (in Aug. 1838) cost 60 cents a nest; two casks sent Nov. 1837 cost 50 cents a nest.

R. M. P.

* They cost you here, "boxed + capped", $1.50 each.

~~P. S. We send you to-day, under the frank~~

RG104 Entry 11

Mint U.S.
March 25/39.

Sir,

I send, by the present mail, a box containing two pairs of half-dime dies, for the Mint at New Orleans, which I pray you to forward under your frank, as heretofore.

R. M. P.

Wm. Leigh Woodbury,
Sec. of Treasury.

RG104 Entry 11

Treasury Department
March 28. 1839.

Sir

I transmit by this Mail a box containing "assay clippings for reassay at the Mint" received this morning from the Superintendant of the Mint at N. Orleans.

I remain very Respfy
Your Obedt. Sert
Levi Woodbury
Sec. of the Treasury.

Dr. R. M. Patterson
Director of the Mint
Philad.

RG104 Entry 11

Mint of the United States.
March 29th, 1839.

Sir,

The weights which Mr. Hassler has made, under your order, for this Mint and that at New Orleans, have been obtained at Washington, for more than a year, for final adjustment and Mr. Hassler's engagements are such that it seems impossible that he should be able to execute this very delicate and tedious work for a long time to come. Under these circumstances it has been thought most advisable that the weights should all be sent to this Mint, ~~as they~~ in their present condition, and that the adjustment should be made here. For this purpose we have all the necessary means; except a beam to be used for the heaviest weights, such as those of a thousand ounces, — our largest adjusting beam being calculated only for about 500 ounces. Now Mr. Hassler has informed me that

he has, in the establishment for weights and measures at Washington, an unfinished beam, of the size required, which is not now necessary there, and which he will send to the Mint, with the weights, if you will give your consent to this transfer. I respectfully beg that you will give ~~your~~ this ~~necessary~~ consent. Such a beam would not only be useful, ~~but is essential~~ to the Mint; but is absolutely necessary, and we were about to have one made for weighing silver deposits, — that which we now employ being unworthy of the establishment.

While I had the honor of being with you at Mr. Dallas's rooms, the day before yesterday, I suggested the propriety of making the Mint one of the depositories of a complete set of standard weights and measures. It is a safe place, — one of great public notoriety, — and seems to be peculiarly appropriate. You are aware, sir, that the legal standard of weight already by law deposited with us. — I submit, sir, then, most respectfully, in writing, my application to have a complete set of the weights and measures deposited at the Mint.

Respy.
R. M. P.

To
Wm. Lewis Moodey,
Sec. of Treasury.

RG104 Entry 11

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complete set of the weights and measures
deposited at the Mint.

P. M. P.

To
Wm. Lewis Moodhey,
Sec. of Treasury.

RG104 Entry 11

Coiners Office } Branch of the U States Mint
New Orleans March 29th 1839

Sir

Believing that a fair understanding between the Officers of this Branch Mint, in regard to their respective duties and powers, is essential to the well being and effective operation of this establishment, I beg leave respectfully to ask your definition of the law which governs them. Also a statement of what has been the practice, at the Mint in Philadelphia, and an expression of your views, as to what should be the regulation at this Branch, particularly, relating to any interference, or direct intercourse, or control, (on the part of the superintendent) of the men employed in a department, either as to their selection, engagement, or dismissal, also as to the admission &c. of visitors.

It appears to me that in the peculiar relationship of the Superintendent and the Officers under his direction, and likewise between the Officers and men in their employ, and considering their respective responsibilities and requisite qualifications, a very liberal construction of the law, would be just and equitable, and even indispensible to the maintenance of good feeling and effective operation.

I have the honor to be
Very respectfully
your Obedient Servant

Philip Syng
Coiner Br Mint

Dr R M. Patterson
Director of the U States Mint

Phila

Sir

Mr Tyler has shown me the within and I concur with him in asking your views on the matters stated.

Yr Hble Servt

D. Bradford

Supt.

RG104 Entry 11

Mint of the U. States
March 30. 1839.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the "box containing assay-clippings for re-assay at the Mint", transmitted through your Department, by the Superintendent of the Branch Mint at New Orleans.

I will take immediate steps for investigating the unfavorable reports with regard to the New-Orleans Mint, to which you have asked my attention, and will report to you the results when ascertained.

Very respy

(Signd) R. M. Patterson
Director

To/
Hon. Levi Woodbury,
Sec. of Treasury.

RG104 Entry 11

RG104 Entry 11

Mint of the U. States
April 2. 1839.

Sir,

I have duly received your letter of the 16th ult., with a list of 19 silver assay-pieces, 14 of which you had forwarded to me through the Sec. of the Treasury, for re-assay at this mint. These have since been received and assayed by Mr. Eckfeldt, proving to be of the following fineness: –

No. 1.	reported	901.3.	found here	900.8
2.	"	900.4.	"	900.
3.	"	899.9.	"	899.
4.	"	900.4.	"	900.
5.	"	899.9.	"	899.
8.	"	901.3.	"	900.4
10.	"	900.8.	"	900.
13.	"	901.3.	"	900.4
14.	"	900.8.	"	900.
15.	"	898.6.	"	898.
16.	"	898.6.	"	897.5
17	"	900.4.	"	899.5
18	"	898.2.	"	897.5
19	"	900.4.	"	900.

Weight of the 14 slips = 35 dwts.

The results found by our Assayer are, as you observe, generally lower than those reported by Dr. Hart: the average of his assays being 900.2, and those of our Assayer 899.4. We do not know to what circumstance this difference is to be ascribed, nor –

To David Bradford, Esq.
Supt. Br. Mint,
New Orleans.

April 2. 1839.

April 1839

RG104 Entry 11

RG104 Entry 11

Mint of the United States
April 8th, 1839.

Sir,

In a letter from Mr. Tyler, of the 29th ult., he asks me to give my views as to the "direct intercourse or control, on the part of the Superintendent, of the men employed in a department, either as to their selection, engagement, or dismissal; also as to the admission of visitors." In a post-script you state that you "concur with Mr. Tyler in asking my views on the matters stated."

To this joint application, I answer cheerfully, because I think it important that the exact relations between the officers and the men should be well understood by all the parties, and because, moreover, there seems to me to be no difficulty in defining these relations; — no such difficulty, at least, occurs at this moment.

In the first place, then, I consider the Superintendent of a Branch Mint as occupying ~~an occupying~~ exactly the same position as to its government, ~~and~~ internal

~~that~~ the Director occupies in the principal Mint. He is its President. To him is expressly committed, by law, the engaging and employing of the workmen, and as a consequence of this power, it is he alone who can dismiss them. So far there can be no question as to rights and authority.

But now, as to the mode of exercising these rights, we must have reference to expediency and custom, and both these are adverse to the direct interference of the Chief Officer of the Mint. The immediate responsibility of each department is with the officer at the head of that department, and he must therefore have the immediate command of his men, and all orders to them should come either immediately from him, or, from the superintendent, through him. Such has been the unvaried course at this Mint, and such, you know, is the course always pursued in the army and navy.

As to the employment of new hands, though this is legally and formally done by the Superintendent, the selection should be really made by the Officer, who recommends his candidate to the Superintendent. If the selection appear to be a proper one the man is employed; if not the officer is to name another.

If a man behave badly, the officer should report him to the Superintendent for dismissal, and, if the reasons are sufficient, the man is accordingly dismissed by the Superintendent.

As to the question of admitting ~~excluding~~ visitors, the custom is for the head of a department, for any sufficient cause, he wishes to be excluded, to apply to the officer to whom this order goes, and it is given as a matter of course, adhered to unless some special reason may be pointed against that action be made. — If the Superintendent ~~I am sure that both you and Tyler will~~ is not in the Mint, the officer gives, himself, the order to the keeper.

I am sure that both you and will see the reasonableness of these views and customs, as to the position & action of the Superintendent and Officers of the Mint.

Yours &c.

R.

To David Bradford Esq.
Supt. Mint at New Orleans.

RG104 Entry 11

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Superintendent. If the selection shall appear to be a proper one the man is employed; if not the officer is asked to name another.

If a man behaves badly, the officer should report him to the Superintendent for dismissal, and, if the reasons are deemed sufficient, the man is accordingly dismissed by the Superintendent.

As to the question of ~~admitting a excluding~~ visitors, the custom here is for the head of a department, when, for any sufficient cause, he wishes visitors to be excluded, to apply to the Chief Officer to have this order given, and it is given as a matter of courtesy, and is adhered to unless some special case may be pointed out requiring that an exception be made. — If the Superintendent ~~I am sure that both you and Mr. Tyler will~~ is not in the Mint, the officer gives, himself, the order to the door-keeper.

I am sure that both you and Mr. Tyler will see the reasonableness of these ~~rules~~ views and customs, as to the relating powers & actions of the Superintendent and the other Officers of the Mint.

Yours &c.

P. M. P.

To David Bradford Esq.
Supt. Mint &c. New Orleans.

RG104 Entry 11

Branch Mint New Orleans April 9th 1839

Dear Sir

Of the above $400.00 please to pay to Messrs Baldwin & Colton, grocers, the [redacted] one hundred and ninety seven dollars ($197.00) and the remaining $203.00 to Mrs A. Martin of the Infants Retreat and greatly oblige

Your sincere friend
and Obed't Servt

Rufus Lyon

Dr. R. M. Patterson
Director of the U. States Mint
Philad.

197
203
$400.

Post Office Department,
March 13, 1839.

PROPOSALS FOR PRINTING, BINDING AND STATIONERY.

Proposals

Sealed proposals will be received at the Post Office Department until the 30th day of March next, for the following descriptions of printing, to be expended when ordered during the present year, viz:

Blanks and circulars, not over one page, on quarto post paper.

Same, over one and not over two pages.

Same, over two and not over three pages.

Same, ruled and figured.

Blanks and circulars, on foolscap paper, of one, two and three pages, as above. Also ruled and figured.

Blanks for "mails received," on medium paper, both sides ruled.

Same for "mails sent," do. do.

Same for "mails received," for distributing offices, do. do.

Same for "mails sent," do. do. do.

Same for "newspapers and pamphlets received," do. do.

Same for "accounts current," on folio post paper, ruled.

Same for do. do. on quarto post paper, ruled.

Post bills, on foolscap paper, 6 on a sheet, with signatures.

Same,	do.	do.	9	do.	do.
Same,	do.	do.	12	do.	do.
Same	do.	do.	12	do.	without signatures.

Two books of proposals for mail contracts, one about 150 pages, the other about 250, more or less, two to three thousand each.

Laws and instructions to postmasters, about

The bids for paper must give the prices per ream, except drawing and tracing paper, which must be priced by the quire or sheet. Prices must be annexed to every item contained in the advertisement.

The contracts for printing, binding, and stationery, will be let separately to the lowest bidder, properly vouched according to law.

The lowest bidders will be ascertained as follows, viz: Before the bids are opened, the Department will estimate, as accurately as practicable, the quantity of printing, binding, and stationery of each description advertised for, which will be wanted during the year. These quantities will be multiplied by the prices contained in the bids, and the products added together. That bid which thus produces the lowest aggregate result, will be taken as the lowest bid.

March 15—td AMOS KENDALL.

WASHINGTON, January 30.

THE special commissioner appointed to investigate the validity of the assents of certain Creek Indians to the contract made between Gen. Jesup, J. C. Watson and Co. and certain chiefs of the Creek nation, and to adjudicate upon the claims which may be set up, either under or adverse to that contract, has adopted the following regulations for the government of the proceedings before him.

1. The memorials of all the persons claiming adverse to that contract having been received, four months from the 28th inst. are allowed for the respective parties to produce their proofs, and submit their arguments. After that period, no evidence will be received, and it is expected that the arguments will be submitted within the same period, but they will be received at any time before the final decision upon the case to which they refer.

2. The proof shall be in the form of written depositions, signed by the witness, and taken before an officer authorized by law to take affidavits.

3. There shall also be transmitted a certificate of the proper officer, that the magistrate taking the deposition is the officer he purports to be; but this rule may be dispensed with in cases where both parties appear at the same time before the magistrate.

4. No depositions will be received unless the following conditions be complied with: Due notice of the examination of any witness shall be given to the adverse party. In case the witness is to be examined east of the Mississippi, and within 100 miles of the residence of the party upon whom the notice shall be served, fifteen days' notice will be required; in all other cases, thirty days' notice. Such notice shall be in writing, and shall contain the name of the witness to be examined, the description of the reserve to which the testimony is to be applicable, the names of the parties claiming the same, and the time and place at which the examination is to be taken.

The notice must be served on some one of the parties interested, by delivering the same to him personally; or, in case of his absence, by leaving a copy thereof with some person of suitable age and discretion, at his residence. In case such service be impracticable, and the commissioner shall be satisfied thereof; or, in case the opposite party be absent from the State, the notice must be published, for three successive weeks, in two newspapers printed nearest to the land in question. In all cases, the proper evidence of service, verified by oath, or publication of the notice, or the written admission of the opposite party, must be attached to the original depositions, and be transmitted with them.

5. When testimony shall be taken in the Creek country west of the Mississippi, it may be taken before the United States agent for the Creek Indians.

6. The original depositions, with the notice of examination and evidence of service thereof, will in all instances be, by the magistrate taking the same, enclosed in a sealed envelope, with his name signed across the seal, and be directed to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, and transmitted by mail.

7. In all cases of claims adverse to the Watson contract, the claimant will, with his notice of the examination of witnesses, serve a true abstract of the bond or contract under which he claims, specifying the name of the reservee, the date of the contract, a description of the reserve claimed, the consideration money or price, and the names of the witnesses to the contract.

8. In many instances, the memorials are filed without specifying the names of all the parties interested in the several claims. It is necessary that a more particular description of the claimants be [illegible]

HIGHLY IMPORTANT CAUTION TO THE PUBLIC.—"A case to Ponder"—Beware of Quacks.—DOCTOR EVANS, 150 Chatham street, takes the present opportunity of tendering his most unfeigned acknowledgements to the numerous patients (afflicted with the various forms of disease incident to humanity) who have committed themselves to his care, and he has the satisfaction of knowing from many living evidences that he has removed or relieved their respective maladies so far as lies within the compass of human means. How distressing to the afflicted is DYSPEPSIA or INDIGESTION, poisoning all the sources of his enjoyment, and leading, in many instances, to the miseries of confirmed hypocondriasism. Long as it has been made the subject of inquiry by medical authors, it remains involved in much obscurity. Jaundice, Diarrhœa, Cholera and Colic also perform a conspicuous part in the drama of morbid affections. Dr. EVANS has been singularly successful in the treatment of the above complaints by remedies drawn from the storehouse of the most eminent physicians in Europe.

He has also had vast experience and success throughout the whole family of delicate diseases, all of which are for the most part aggravated by, and rooted in the constitution, by the CONSPIRACIES OF MERCURIAL MURDERERS, UNPRINCIPLED, UNEDUCATED and UNPRACTISED in any art save that of attempting to lead the credulous on the road to ruin. Dr. Evans's office is supplied with the choicest remedies from foreign markets, and compounded on the most scientific principles. A physician is always in attendance, and all those who come there in the hour of need will go off rejoicing.

A PERFECT CURE OF ASTHMA, fifty-four years standing, effected by the use of Dr. Wm. Evans's medicine.

I hereby certify that I was attacked with the Asthma in the ninth year of my age, and from that time until the present year, a period of fifty-four years, I have been subject to that disease. For the last five years, I have had it almost incessantly, not being exempt from it more than twenty-four hours at any one time. I have consulted the most skilful physicians, and tried many remedies, without any relief. In June last I commenced using Dr. Wm. Evans's Vegetable Medicine, not with the expectation of effecting a cure, for I believed my case hopeless and my dissolution near, but with the hope of obtaining momentary relief. Before I had used two packages I was entirely relieved, and have not been attacked with it since. I can now say that I am perfectly cured of the disease, and can confidently recommend it to all who are afflicted with this distressing complaint.

SARAH SIMMONS,
Prince George county, Virginia.

☞THE DIFFERENCE.—It cannot be denied that whilst many medicines which are recommended to the public, have not even the negative merit of harmlessness, there are others which it would be great injustice indeed, and suicidal prejudice, to involve, untried, in a common condemnation. And when a medicine comes endorsed with all the great names that have adorned the annals of the medical profession, warranted by the seal and signature of long and uniform success, its proprietor makes no unreasonable demand upon public confidence, when he claims for it a superior consideration.

DR. W. EVANS does not pretend that his Camomile Tonic Pills will cure ALL diseases. He frankly and conscientiously admits that they will not. He lays no claims to the discovery of the "Philosopher's Stone," and wishes nobody to believe that he sells the "Elixir of Life," but he DOES SAY, and he DOES BELIEVE, and he CAN PROVE, that in debility and impaired constitutions, in NERVOUS DISEASES OF ALL KINDS; in weakness of the digestive organs; in incipient consumptions, whether of the lungs or liver; in the dreadful debility occasioned by the use of purgatives; palsy, rheumatism, (more especially) in the sickness incident to mothers, and to females of relaxed nerves; in every case of delirium tremens or that disease which is brought on by intemperance; in the wretched nervous of mind and body which accrue from consensual indulgence; in loss of appetite, languor, melancholy, pains in the head, limbs, or side, in cottage, palace, and [illegible] companions, caused by the bad state of the stomach; all these cases and, in some cases, for years [illegible] which are sold with them, will effect

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amined east of the Mississippi, and within 100 miles of the residence of the party upon whom the notice shall be served, fifteen days' notice will be required; in all other cases, thirty days' notice. Such notice shall be in writing, and shall contain the name of the witness to be examined, the description of the reserve to which the testimony is to be applicable, the names of the parties claiming the same, and the time and place at which the examination is to be taken.

The notice must be served on some one of the parties interested, by delivering the same to him personally; or, in case of his absence, by leaving a copy thereof with some person of suitable age and discretion, at his residence. In case such service be impracticable, and the commissioner shall be satisfied thereof; or, in case the opposite party be absent from the State, the notice must be published, for three successive weeks, in two newspapers printed nearest to the land in question. In all cases, the proper evidence of service, verified by oath, or publication of the notice, or the written admission of the opposite party, must be attached to the original depositions, and be transmitted with them.

5. When testimony shall be taken in the Creek country west of the Mississippi, it may be taken before the United States agent for the Creek Indians.

6. The original depositions, with the notice of examination and evidence of service thereof, will in all instances be, by the mag strate taking the same, enclosed in a sealed envelope, with his name signed across the seal, and be directed to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, and transmitted by mail.

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8. In many instances, the memorials are filed without specifying the names of all the parties interested in the several claims. It is necessary that a more particular designation of the claimants be made. They will therefore amend their memorials herein, within four months from the date hereof; but the notice of such amendment, specifying it, shall be given to the opposite party within thirty days from this date.

9. In all cases of claims in the name or on behalf of the original reservee, with the notice of the examination of witnesses will also be served a true copy of the power of attorney and its attestation, under which the claim will be asserted before the commissioner, and the original power will be exhibited at the time of the examination, and be filed before the special commissioner within four months from this date, and a true copy thereof be filed with him within two months from this date.

10. It is desirable that the depositions and the arguments thereon be transmitted directly upon their being taken, so that the special commissioner may have an opportunity of examining and deciding upon them without delay.

11. It is not intended that the magistrates before whom the depositions shall be taken, shall pass upon questions of legality or admissibility of testimony. All objections of that character will be made at the time of the examination, and be noted by the magistrate in the depositions, and the questions be reserved for the [illegible]

12. The secretary will cause copies of these regulations to be served without delay on each of the counsel, and the same to be published for six successive weeks in the Washington Globe, the Sentinel, at Columbus, Geo. the Montgomery Ad- [illegible] the Sentinel, We-

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☞Office 100 Chatham street, New York, where the Doctor may be consulted.

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ENVIABLE DISTINCTION.

In the midst of a general, and in many instances not unfounded prejudice against many of the medical remedies of the day, Dr. W. EVANS's Pills have the enviable distinction of an universal approbation. They are perhaps the only medicine publicly advertised, that has the full and unreserved testimony of medical men in its favor, if not the only one which gives full satisfaction. His Camomile or Tonic Pills are not only regularly recommended and prescribed by the most experienced physicians in their daily practice, but also taken by those gentlemen themselves, whenever they feel the symptoms of these diseases in which they well know them to be efficacious. He knows this to be generally the case in New York, Philadelphia, Albany, Boston, and other large cities in

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By order of J. W. Edmonds, Special Com'r,
JNO. M. WYSE, Sec'y.

STAMMERING CURED.—Dr. Comstock's Vocal Gymnasium and Lyceum for Elocution, Philadelphia.—This institution is open from the first of September till the last of June; during July and August there is a vacation. All desirous of instruction, either for the relief of stammering, lisping, or improvement in elocution, may learn the conditions of

ANDREW COMSTOCK, M. D.
No. 100, Arch street, Philadelphia.

☞ Recently published by Kay and Brother, 122 Chestnut street, Philadelphia, Practical Elocution, or a System of Vocal Gymnastics, with Remarks on Stammering, by Andrew Comstock, M. D.

Also, Comstock's Table of the Elements of the English Language, mounted on rollers.

Feb 16—d1m*

THIS is to give notice that the subscriber has obtained from the Orphans' Court of Washington county, in the District of Columbia, letters of administration on the personal estate of Anthony G. Glynn, late of Washington county, deceased. All persons having claims against the deceased, are hereby warned to exhibit the same, with the vouchers thereof, to the subscriber, on or before the 27th day of April next. They may, otherwise, by law, be excluded from all benefits of the said estate.

Given under my hand this 27th day of April, 1838.
MARTHA G. HENDERSON,
Administratrix.

March 5—law3w

TO INVALIDS.—The subscriber again invites public attention to his large establishment at Indian Key, in Tropical Florida, which was erected for the express purpose of furnishing comfortable accommodations to travelling invalids who need a warm, dry, and pleasant asylum during the winter, and a mild, equable, and restorative temperature

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Enviable, however, as this distinction is, it can easily be accounted for from the intrinsic and peculiar properties of the medicine itself. It does not pretend to too much, and it accomplishes all that it promises. Dr. W. Evans does not pretend, for instance, that either his Camomile or Aperient Pills will cure all diseases by merely purifying the blood, but he certainly does pretend, and has the authority of daily proofs for positively asserting that these medicines, taken as recommended, will cure a great majority of the diseases of the Stomach, Lungs, and the Liver, by which impurity of the blood is occasioned. The blood is made from the contents of the stomach; has its red color and vitality given to it by the action of the lungs, and as it performs its duty in circulating through the veins and arteries, has its yellow or bilious excrement, which may be termed its refuse or worn out sediment, collected and discharged by the liver. These viscera, then, are the anatomical mechanism or apparatus by which the blood is manufactured and preserved; and it is therefore obvious that the state of these should be the first consideration of the physician. Now there are various causes that will affect and derange these organs with which the blood has nothing whatever to do. Thus the stomach may be utterly debilitated in one moment, by affright, grief, disappointment, heat of the weather, or any other nervous action, and be wholly unable to digest its food. Is the blood to blame for this? A nervous action of long continuance will produce settled dyspepsia, with headache, bile, mental and physical debility and a funeral retinue of other evils. Is the blood to blame for this? Intemperance, by inflaming the coats of the stomach, and leaving it in flaccid prostrate weakness; and an undue quantity and continuance of purgative medicines, by producing

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For other details, he refers to his former advertisement in the Globe of last February 10th to 25th.

He now merely adds that his price for boarding, with a single room and servant's attention, will not exceed one dollar and fifty cents a day, and that a club of twenty gentlemen can be accommodated at thirty dollars a month each.

SAMUEL A. SPENCER.

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BRANCH MINT AT NEW ORLEANS.

The public has been for many months greatly disappointed at the operations of the Branch Mint in New Orleans, and it has become a serious inquiry to learn how it happens that the great expectations formed of that establishment have been thus far disappointed. Private letters received in this city have attributed this disappointment to the operations of Mr. Biddle, and now we see the same thing publicly, and, as it would seem, authoritatively, asserted in the New Orleans papers. In the *Louisianian* of the last dates we see several communications on this subject, showing what the Mint in that city was expected to be, what in fact it ought to be, and what in reality it is; and then assigning the causes for the, thus far, nullity of the establishment. From these communications we propose to make several extracts, and do so the more readily as the articles were evidently written to attract the notice of the Government and the public. The writer says:

"The subject is highly interesting to the citizens of New Orleans; it requires a full and impartial investigation; it demands the immediate attention of the directors at Philadelphia; it claims the consideration of the Secretary of the Treasury, and of the President of the United States. The business of the branch mint, however, has not been limited to coinage. We have been informed that all the bullion deposited has been assayed, and that certificates have been issued, available in the operations of commerce; but this amounts to nothing, for these certificates pass first into the hands of brokers, then go to the city banks, and finally to Mr. Biddle's Merchant's bank, where the specie is for ever lost to the city and the State, and goes with the unerring certainty of destiny to the Atlantic cities. It is true, that since Mr. Biddle, not satisfied with his mammoth bank, has become a magnificent merchant, like one of the princes of ancient Tyre, he retains some portion of the specie that falls into his hands, to form a sufficient basis for the Southern banks he has purchased, that he may effectually control the Southern banks and the Southern trade, and realize his golden dreams at the expense of our humiliation, degradation and ruin."

Here is a direct charge against Mr. Biddle for monopolizing and carrying off to Philadelphia the coinage of this Mint; and, we repeat, this corresponds with responsible private letters written to this city. The operation is, for Mr. Biddle to send the notes of his bank to New Orleans, sell them as exchange to merchants and others, and get all the Mint certificates he can in payment; and thus, by the easy and endless process of sending his notes to New Orleans, he is able not only to carry off the specie of the city, but also to monopolize the coinage of the Mint, and transport the whole to Philadelphia.

The writer goes on to show that there was an original political opposition to the establishment of the Branch Mint at New Orleans, connected with the design to deteriorate the currency, and to make the country believe there could be no safe currency until a National Bank was established; and that Mr. Biddle is now accomplishing what the Bank politicians asserted when the branch was established. On this point he says:

"The advocates of the United States Bank, all those who have profited, or still hoped to profit by that institution, opposed the bill most violently. Foremost in these ranks, as might have been anticipated, stood Henry Clay, battling most strenuously against aught that would have a tendency to ameliorate the currency, or displace the reams of bank paper which then pervaded the country. All of argument he could bring to aid him in such a cause was expended; and as the gentleman is the last of the prophets, he foretold how useless would be the experiment. He attempted to demonstrate that the bullion would naturally flow to New York and Philadelphia; that one of the large Northeastern cities was the most appropriate for such an establishment; and that the mint at Philadelphia was more than adequate to the wants of the community. Gentlemen who supposed water never rose of bullion than was ever calculated on by Mr. Benton."

With respect to the small amount of specie actually coined at this Branch, the amount being in fact far below the deposites of bullion, the writer starts a query which he does not solve; and seems to leave it to the Director at Philadelphia, and the Superintendent at New Orleans, to settle the point between them. He says:

"We now come to the other charge, and here it must be frankly conceded that unless some officer of the mint can clear up the point, there is a position that neither sophistry, facts, nor argument, can successfully defend. It appears from the official document already referred to, that $277,600 of bullion were deposited in the branch mint in New Orleans in 1838, and that of this amount only $40,243 were coined in dimes. Much more was certainly expected of the branch mint, and the complaints of the public have been loud, urgent, and just. The annual report of the directors of the mint at Philadelphia induced the belief that upon the arrival of the unacclimated officers and workmen from the North, the mint would immediately go into full operation. If $40,243 in dimes is the result of the full operation of such an establishment, fully supplied with all necessary machinery, as it is said to be, and with a full compliment of officers and workmen, it must be admitted that it may fairly be classed among the modern humbugs, and the public have a right to demand the reason of such a waste of public money, and of such a pitiful amount of coinage, after the pledge contained in the report of the director at Philadelphia. If, with every thing ready for full operation, only $40,243 were coined when the deposites were $277,600, there is no reason to suppose that more would have been coined if there had been no interruption of the Mexican trade, and what then would it avail though millions were imported from the richest mines in Mexico and South America.

"Is it not evident, then, that between the director of the mint at Philadelphia, and the officers and workmen of the branch mint at New Orleans, there is a dilemma, upon one horn of which one of the parties must be suspended? If the director at Philadelphia has actually supplied the branch mint with every thing requisite for full operation, then amongst the officers and workmen there must be either gross incapacity or shameful neglect of duty; and on the other hand, if the officers and workmen are capable and diligent and faithful, the inference necessarily results that the branch mint has not been furnished with the requisite machinery. Let the gentlemen decide this question among themselves. But again, if the coinage at the branch mint in 1838 had gone on, as the public had every right to expect, from the reported efficiency of the officers and workmen, and with the rapidity ensured by the application of steam power to every part of the machinery, there is no doubt but that from the banks of this State, of Mississippi, and of Alabama, and from brokers, merchants, and citizens, a million of dollars in bullion would have been deposited at the branch mint, without calculating on any portion of the large supply annually received from Mexico under ordinary circumstances: and whatever may be the opinion of Mr. Clay, or of the New York editors, his political friends, he and they may be well assured that not only in New Orleans and the State of Louisiana, but also in Mississippi and Alabama, there exists the firmest conviction of the importance and necessity of the branch mint in this city, and that the most lively interest is felt for its complete success. Moreover, whatever doubts may once have existed on the subject, when the minds of men were dazzlee by the eloquence, or confounded by the sophistry of Mr. Clay, those doubts are now fully removed, and all the darkness and difficulty fully dispelled; the first by the sure test of experience, and the latter by the pervading light of truth."

The writer goes on to account for Mr. Clay's opposition to Southern mints, and justly attributes it to his devotion to Northern interests, his liaisons with the Bank of the United States, his desire to deteriorate the currency, and his general and long settled antipathy to the South. He says:

"Now that we have endeavored to place this whole matter in its proper light before the public, yielding to the enemies of the branch mint at New Orleans every objection which can fairly be urged against it, what must be the conclusions which we

is a mint—the attempt of Mr. Ogle of Pennsylvania, in the House of Representatives, to suspend the operations of all three of the branches by law—the zeal and unanimity with which this extraordinary motion was supported by the self-called Whigs of the House—the twice defeated bill to authorize the Southern branches to coin small silver—the rancorous attacks of the whole Federal party on hard money—the care with which all the gold they can lay hands on is locked up, and packed away, to be kept out of circulation at home and held ready for exportation whenever it shall suit Mr. Biddle's pecuniary and political interests to raise foreign exchange above ten and a half per cent.; the view of all these things systematically occurring, and all concurring to the same point, are sufficient to convince any one that a plot has been formed to nullify the Southern mints; and that this plot is part and parcel of the general scheme to deteriorate the currency, and make it as bad as possible, just to prove to the people of the United States that they cannot live without a National Bank. The present year is to be critical to the Branch Mints. If the United States Bank party can render them useless to the country, they will be able to bring forward Mr. Ogle's motion with much greater effect next year. If that party was in power they could have these Mints

18,000 copies, medium octavo, about 100 pages; more or less, a small part ruled and figured. If decimens of each kind of blanks may be sent

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specie of the city, but also to monopolize the coinage of the Mint, and transport the whole to Philadelphia.

The writer goes on to show that there was an original political opposition to the establishment of the Branch Mint at New Orleans, connected with the design to deteriorate the currency, and to make the country believe there could be no safe currency until a National Bank was established; and that Mr. BIDDLE is now accomplishing what the Bank politicians asserted when the branch was established. On this point he says:

"The advocates of the United States Bank, all those who have profited, or still hoped to profit by that institution, opposed the bill most violently. Foremost in these ranks, as might have been anticipated, stood Henry Clay, battling most strenuously against aught that would have a tendency to ameliorate the currency, or displace the reams of bank paper which then pervaded the country. All of argument he could bring to aid him in such a cause was expended; and as the gentleman is the last of the prophets, he foretold how useless would be the experiment. He attempted to demonstrate that the bullion would naturally flow to New York and Philadelphia; that one of the large Northeastern cities was the most appropriate for such an establishment; and that the mint at Philadelphia was more than adequate to the wants of the community. There was a view of the matter, however, which the gentleman would not take, and which, upon all subjects of a similar kind, the gentleman's political leanings and aspirations will never permit him to take; a view which might have taught him, had his policy permitted, that an immense amount of foreign bullion would naturally flow to other points, if not restricted by partial legislation. One of these points, and that, too, the most important contemplated in the arrangements of the bill, was the city of New Orleans, possessing the elements of a commerce which must speedily render it the rival of most favored cities of our Union, connected by the closest bonds of intercourse and trade with that State which Mr. Clay has the honor to represent, and at the same time from its position and Mexican trade, presenting the most convenient and the most natural emporium for the importation of bullion from the richest mines of the earth. Certainly here was to be found a natural channel through which this treasure would flow into our Union. Unluckily, however, for the interest of New Orleans and the South, this had not heretofore been the direction of the patronage of the General Government, which had ever flowed, with as [illegible] ern channel. With wiser and more patriotic views, was the bill supported by Mr. Benton and Mr. Calhoun. They contended with a truth and energy that carried conviction to every impartial mind, that every principle of justice and expediency required the establishment of a branch mint at New Orleans, and to these gentlemen is the South mainly indebted for the first great victory which will enable the city of New Orleans to shake off the unnatural dependency of her immense commercial interest from the artificial shackles which have bound, and rendered her tributary to the North."

Of the capacity of the city to supply the mint with bullion for coining, arising from the Mexican trade, the writer thus speaks:

"In the debate in the Senate of the United States relative to the establishment of branch mints, Mr. Clay contended that they were utterly useless, because they could neither be supplied with the necessary bullion, nor could they prove effectual to arrest the natural flow of specie from the southwest to the northeastern cities; which drain, he confidently asserted, would continue in spite of every human effort to arrest it. Mr. Benton, on the other hand, confidently affirmed that the branch mint at New Orleans would effectually accomplish that object, so important to New Orleans and the valley of the Mississippi. The editor of the New York paper says that facts have sustained Mr. Clay's opinion, and refuted Mr. Benton's. This first charge is predicted in the annual report of the director at Philadelphia, who states that $277,600 of bullion were deposited at the mint in this city in the year 1838. How far this charge can be sustained a candid examination of the facts will decide. Prior to the blockade of the Mexican ports by the French fleet in June, 1838, upwards of two millions of dollars in *bullion* had for some years been annually imported into New Orleans from Mexico, which supply was completely arrested by that blockade, and this fact is the simple and true reason why so small an amount of bullion was deposited in 1838. In the months of April and May, 1838, the firm of Lizardi, whose business with Mexico is on the largest scale, made deposites in the Branch Mint of bullion, shipped to them by the proprietors of some of the richest mines of Mexico, at Durango, Zacatecas, and San Luis de Potosi, to ascertain the comparative benefit that would result from such a disposition of their bullion. [illegible] satisfactory, and it [illegible] pi, and of Alabama, and from brokers, merchants, and citizens, a million of dollars in bullion would have been deposited at the branch mint, without calculating on any portion of the large supply annually received from Mexico under ordinary circumstances; and whatever may be the opinion of Mr. Clay, or of the New York editors, his political friends, he and they may be well assured that not only in New Orleans and the State of Louisiana, but also in Mississippi and Alabama, there exists the firmest conviction of the importance and necessity of the branch mint in this city, and that the most lively interest is felt for its complete success. Moreover, whatever doubts may once have existed on the subject, when the minds of men were dazzled by the eloquence, or confounded by the sophistry of Mr. Clay, those doubts are now fully removed, and all the darkness and difficulty fully dispelled; the first by the sure test of experience, and the latter by the pervading light of truth."

The writer goes on to account for Mr. CLAY's opposition to Southern mints, and justly attributes it to his devotion to Northern interests, his *liaisons* with the Bank of the United States, his desire to deteriorate the currency, and his general and long settled antipathy to the South. He says:

"Now that we have endeavored to place this whole matter in its proper light before the public, yielding to the enemies of the branch mint at New Orleans every objection which can fairly be urged against it, what must be the suggestions which present themselves to every impartial mind on the character of the opposition of Mr. Clay in the Senate, and now re-echoed from the North in the triumphant tones assumed by those who, when the noblest schemes of improvement have met with some unanticipated check, are always ready to exclaim in the impertinent egotism of ignorance, 'I knew it—I foretold it!'

"What truly good and great man would not rather fail in such an undertaking than succeed in any of the paltry schemes which are constantly started, to promote some time-serving purpose, some individual or sectional interest?

"With what delight did a certain class of politicians hail the wide-spreading commercial calamity which lately paralyzed the industry of our country, and that of the civilized world, gloat upon the ruin, and with cold hearted apathy regard it as a striking illustration of their foreknowledge and sagacity.

"We always dislike to inquire into the motives of our fellow men, but we are compelled to regard the hostility of Mr. Clay and his Northern allies to the establishment of a branch mint at this place as evincing a most utter and reckless disregard of Southern rights.

"[illegible] have been wise enough to have foreseen, gifted as he is said to [illegible] political prescience, that a decided expression of public opinion had put the question of the United States Bank entirely at rest.

"If this be true, it is difficult to conceive a motive for his opposition to a branch mint here, other than his complete devotion to northern interests. Had there existed a hope of the establishment of a new Bank, or the continuance of the old, we could readily account for his opposition to the establishment of branch mints at new points. The tendency of such institutions to promote a constant flow of bullion to the most convenient and natural channel, needs no demonstration. The tendency of the branch at New Orleans to furnish the banks and the community with a greater supply of specie than they otherwise could command, is equally evident. Every one at all acquainted with the modern process of banking, is aware that a circulation of three dollars of paper for one of specie, has heretofore been considered a safe standard; in most instances this proportion has been largely exceeded. This fact is closely connected with our argument. All that we can retain of the precious metals contributes to swell the circulation of our local institutions, and so far relieves them from foreign aid. Every portion subtracted from it, contributes in like manner to increase the banking capital of other States."

The advantages that would result to New Orleans, and of course to the whole West, from the successful operations of the mint there, and the evils which must flow from its failure, are thus presented by the writer:

"Were the branch mint of New Orleans at present in the full operation contemplated by its friends, there would be no necessity for our banks to look for supplies from any other source.

"Without this convenience, what must be the result? An irredeemable paper circulation—a want of the true basis for all banking operations, which, under present circumstances, we could derive from no other source. All the bullion and specie, the avails of our lucrative trade with Mexico, would pass through New Orleans, on its way to Philadelphia; and such has ever been the artificial and unnatural current of trade against us, that it would be immediately swallowed up in payment of paper loans, and its return rendered for ever hopeless. To counteract this diversion of our resources, to promote a just system of trade by which we will be enabled to avail ourselves of every advantage of our position, and seek new and more favorable markets for our produce, was the policy of Mr. Benton and Mr. Calhoun. There needs [illegible] labored argument to prove that whilst our exports largely exceed those of any other city in

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"The result proved highly satisfactory, and it was stated to the superintendent of the branch mint that they alone would be able to supply the mint with two millions of bullion annually. There are several other commercial houses engaged in the Mexican trade who have expressed themselves as highly gratified at the establishment of a branch mint in this city, and there is little reason to doubt that the supply of bullion would have amounted to four or five millions in two or three years but for the blockade of the Mexican ports by the French. For this anticipated increase in the amount of bullion, which we have no doubt will be realized when the difficulties between France and Mexico shall be adjusted, this city will be indebted wholly and clearly to the establishment of the branch mint. Mr. Clay was therefore in error, and Mr. Benton was right; and it is equally certain that the blockade of the Mexican ports by the French never entered into the calculation of Mr. Clay when he so bitterly opposed the wise and patriotic plans of Mr. Benton. Nothing then but this untoward and unexpected event has prevented the branch mint of New Orleans from receiving even a larger amount some unanticipated check, are always ready to claim in the impertinent egotism of ignorance, 'I knew it—I foretold it!'

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There can be no doubt but that a plan has been laid from the beginning to prevent the usefulness of the Southern mints, and thereby render them ridiculous and contemptible, and thus preface the way for their destruction. The hatred evinced towards them by Mr. Clay and his partisans—the abuse constantly lavished upon them by Mr. Biddle's presses—the conduct of Mr. Biddle in monopolizing the coinage of the New Orleans mint, and shipping it to Philadelphia, where there

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Mint U.S.
April 1st, 1839.

Sir,

~~Some late number~~ In the Globe of the 27th ult. there is a series of remarks ~~on the subject~~ which, consisting principally of extracts from papers of your city, ~~and~~ with regard to which it may be proper that we should give some explanations to the Treasury Department. For this purpose, I beg leave to make of you the following inquiries.

1st. When did you commence coining?

2d. Have you supplied, from Philadelphia, with the machinery, apparatus, and materials required for your operations, or do you think that you have had reasonable grounds for complaint in this respect and that this has been a permanent cause for the scanty coinage of last year.

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3d. When were the operations of the Mint suspended to allow the superintendent & officers to leave New Orleans; and when were the operations resumed by their return?

4th. Did you not consider this suspension, for the period had been, an act of prudence and propriety?

5th. How are the operations of the Mint progressing forward? Have you more than one press at work? Have you yet coined any thing but dime & half dimes? If so what other coins? What are your immediate prospects as to coinage?

6. How much has been deposited at your Mint for coinage: of this how much has been paid?

7. State the whole amount of your coinage up to the date of your report.

8. If you can have how much foreign silver & gold has been imported into New Orleans, ~~since~~ since the opening of your Mint, I should be very glad to have the information; and, if possible, I should like to know how much of this was in uncoined bullion.

R. M. T.

To David Bradford Esq.
Supt. Br. Mint. New Orleans

RG104 Entry 11

Philada. April 15th 1839

Dr Patterson

Dear Sir

Enclosed please receive bills of lading for twenty carboys acid for U. S. Br. Mint, New Orleans per Brig Snow, there are thirty carboys in all, but the Captain of the vessel declined taking the balance for want of room, we expect to send them hereon in a few days, when we will send you bills of lading & invoice for the whole

Very respectfully
Your obtd. servt.

John Farr & Co

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Coiner's Office

New Orleans Mint

New Orleans, April 16th 1859

Sir

In reply to your request of the 13th ultimo, that I report to you at my earliest convenience &c, I have the honor to submit the following.

From the date of your request, it would seem that an earlier reply might have been required of me, but from a verbal understanding between us, and a desire to bring into my report matters which have but just transpired, I was led to believe that the delay would be excuseable, particularly as you are aware that my time is nearly all devoted to the management of the operations of my department, and to increasing the facilities thereof — Since my report of the 31st of July last, (which was the time of suspending our operations for the season) there has been coined at this Branch Mint 411,000 pieces in Dimes, 350,000 pieces in Half Dimes, and, 86,000 pieces in Half Dollars, making since the resumption 841,000 pieces, which added to 406,000 pieces previously struck in Dimes, amounts to 1,247,000 pieces — No other denominations of Coin have as yet been struck, owing to the great demands upon us for Dimes & Half Dimes. During the summer recess of last year, the greater part of the workmen employed were re engaged (generally at a small advance of wages) and all vacancies filled ready for the

resumption of business in the fall — Since resuming our operations two of my workmen have left, and one of the vacancies has been filled with a suitable person, at the lowest rate of wages, the other I purpose supplying in the same manner, in order to avoid all unnecessary expense for wages.

One of my annealing furnaces remains unfinished owing to the sudden death of the principal workman, who was engaged upon it, at a time when it was less inconvenient than now to have that work going on) But, the one we have is sufficient for present use — The Milling Machine for Half Dollars, has been found to answer tolerably well, but owing to the weakness of the frame or (Stand) it was necessary to pass the Planchets twice through.

The Cutting presses, the Draw Benches, the Rolls, and indeed all the machinery in the Cutting Milling and Rolling rooms, continue in good working condition, with the exception of occasional accident, and the wear to which all such machinery is liable — The small Coining Press, had struck over a million of pieces without any serious accident, but, at length an accident has occurred, such as I have been in constant apprehension of, which has considerably damaged the Press — I have anticipated in some degree the effects of such shocks in the large press, by detatching the fly wheel, and connecting it to its shaft, only with a friction coupling. This arrangement prevents the strain upon the shaft from ever exceeding the common working strain. The large press continues to work in a very satisfactory manner, so far as regards the general application, but I believe it will be found expedient hereafter at a leisure time, to make considerable alterations in some of the details, in order to render its operations as effective and certain as desirable.

Among the more obvious amendments in trifling matters connected with the machinery, is that of preventing the unpleasant noise of the connection between the Rolls and their driving wheels — This is effected by means of a wooden support under the middle of the lower connecting bar, which keeps it from falling, and then by introducing a spring support for the upper one between them, this spring is necessary to allow the upper roll to rise and fall the required distance, Owing to the arduousness of my duties in the endeavour to supply the demmands for small coins, and to produce a quantity of Half Dollars sufficient to pay off our dues to depositors.

I have not yet been able to do anything to the middle sized press, and not having any settled plan for proceeding in its completion, it is impossible for me at the present time to state how long a time will be required to get it to work, I am anxious to get it to work as soon as possible, but from the number and nature of its defects, it is necessary

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that I should give it my undivided attention for a time, before anything can be advantageously done upon it. The ammendments should be thorough and complete, that its performance may be depended upon. The small coining press, works with literally certainty at the speed of one hundred pieces per minute but on account of the irregularity of the motion of the Steam Engine it is not thought safe to gear it at quite so high a speed. A separate Steam Engine for the Presses, seems to be the proper way of obtaining an equable motion, so that they may be safely run at the highest speed. I suggest therefore, that as soon as all the presses are in operation, and all the arrangements and fixtures are complete, a small Engine be procured for that purpose. This plan has been found expedient in the Mint at Philadelphia.

The driving pulleys &c for the large lathe and a line of shafting, pulleys &c for the department of the Melter & Refiner, are in progress, and will soon be completed. I beg leave to remark in this place, as the time is approaching, when it may be expected of my department, to execute all orders promptly delivered to me for that purpose, and in the manner best calculated to meet the ideas of yourself, the Director, and the Government, in satisfying the wants of the Public. I feel it my duty to request that in filling the vacancy of Weighing Clerk in the Treasurer's Office you will consider the propriety of securing the services of one who has the entire confidence of all parties concerned. Permit me to urge this as a matter of high importance to every Officer of the Mint, but more particularly to the Treasurer, the Melter & Refiner and the Coiner. From your disposition to afford every reasonable facility and security to the Officers of Departments, and to promote kind feeling among them, I cannot doubt of your willingness to authorize the Treasurer to select his weigher with the advice and consent of the other Officers above named. In regard to what has already been effected in my department, it may be proper here to state, that had I looked only to the present a larger amount of coinage might have been made, and I am fully aware of the importance to ourselves and to the Institution, of an early favorable Impression, as well as of the necessitous demands of the community, but I cannot resist the conviction that such a course would have been attended ultimately, with disadvantages immensely greater than the temporary benefits, on as much as it would have tended to the adoption of an Imperfect System, and half way measures, which might ever remain a dead weight to cripple our future success and usefulness.

It will be found on reference to the Treasurer's Book, that I delivered to him in the month of January 76,000 pieces, in February 128,000 and in March 310,000 pieces in Dimes & Half Dimes, and I have reason to believe the

result of the present month's labour, will shew a continued progression increase in the effectiveness of the department under my direction — The large Coining Press being now in succesful operation, will of course swell the amt of Coinage in value with the same amount of labour.

Allow me to call you attention to the subject of securing the building against fire, and to suggest to you the propriety of procuring several small hand Engines (say three or four) with sufficient accompaning hose, to be kept constantly filled with water and ready for immediate use, in different parts of the Mint; one might be place in the Loft, one in the Assayers' one in the Melter & Refiners and one in the Coiners' rooms

Very respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
Rufus Tyler
Coiner Br Mint

To
David Bradford Esq
Superintendent

RG104 Entry 11

From

Rufus Tyler, Esq.,
Coiner of the Mint,
New Orleans.
dated April 16.
rec'd May 13. } 1839.

(Express Mail)

Dr R. M. Patterson
Director U. States Mint
Philadelphia
(Pa.

Dr
Coin

Pa

RG104 Entry 11

U. S. B. Mint New Orleans
April 17th 1839.

Sir,

I am very desirous that Mr. Spofford should be allowed his travelling expenses in returning to Philadelphia but I fear I am not authorized to make him the allowance. If you think I am, I request that you pay him one hundred dollars, out of the funds in your hands to the Cr. of the Treasurer of this U. Mint, and oblige,

Your Faithful Servant
David Bradford
Supt.

To Dr R. M. Patterson
Director of the Mint
Philada.

RG104 Entry 11

From
David Bradford, Esq,
Supt. Br. Mint,
New Orleans
dated April 17. }
rec'd June 3. } 1839.

By hand of Mr. Stafford.

To
Dr R. M. Patterson
Director of the
Mint
Philadelphia

Attention of
Mr. Stafford

RG104 Entry 11

Philada. April 18th 1839

Dr Patterson

Dear Sir

Enclosed please receive bills of lading for Acid for U. S. Br. Mint at New Orleans shipped per Brig L'Orient, together with invoice for both it and the lot per Brig Snow, sent some days since.

Your favour of yesterday per Mr. Denning with order for Pure Acid for same Mint we recd. this morning & shall be attended to with as little delay as possible, we would have sent a part of it along with the last two cargoes, unexpected but the vessel had already left the wharf

My respects

Your obtt. servants

John Farr & Co.

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(Copy.)

I deem it an act of Justice to Mr. Wm. E. Shafford to state my full and entire confidence in his abilities and integrity, and believe him well qualified for the duties of the office to which he was appointed under me. My confidence in him has never for a moment been shaken; and for the short time he was in my office his duties were performed to my entire satisfaction: I made no charge against him, nor have I any to make. His dismissal was the official act of the Superintendent, which, I understand, I have no authority to oppose.

(Signed) Edm: Gaither,
Treas.r Br. Mint
(N. O.)

New Orleans, April 18. 1839.

RG104 Entry 11

U S B Mint New Orleans

Sir

I have to request that you procure and send to the Assayer of this B. Mint a Carboy of pure nitric acid: also some Copper for the Melter & Refiner as he finds the Copper he gets here unfit for his purposes.

I enclose a draft on, and a letter to you for Mr. Tyler.

In haste
Yr. Obt. Svt.

David Bradford
Supt.

Dr R M Patterson
Director
Mint
Phila.

RG104 Entry 11

(Copy) Assayers Office 19th April 1839

David Bradford Esq.
Supt. Br. Mint U.S. W.C. } Sir

Agreeably to your request I have carefully tested the fine silver I employ in assaying, I have found it to be pure. In a Communication I had the honor to address you in the month of July 1838 I stated that I considered the knife edge of the assaying balance very defective and that in consequence I was in perpetual danger of making errors of one millième, generally on one side — The defect that I perceive is the rough or serrated appearance of about one half the knife edge which causes a want of sensibility to the weight of about 1 ℔ where the utmost delicacy is required. I suggested that my department should be supplied with another balance. Mr. Tyler, who examined the balance pronounced it more defective than I had supposed it to be. He promised to regulate it for me — but unfortunately has never yet been able to spare the time to do it. Under the Circumstances in which I have been placed I have done the best I could both for the Government and the public

I remain very respectfully
Yours
(sd) Wm. P. Hort
Assayer

RG104 Entry 11

Mint of the United States,
April 20. 1839.

Sir;

We send two Bills of Lading of Acid shipped on the 6th & 16th inst., in all 30 Carboys, viz:

25 Carboys Nitric Acid
Nos. 1 to 25 – 2201 lbs. @ 12½¢
5 Carboys Sulphuric Acid
Nos. 26 to 30 – 599 lbs @ 4¢

Your order for pure Nitric Acid came too late to be added to the above; but it will be shipped immediately together with the copper for alloy.

Please say to Dr. Hart that the barometer, sent on for repair in November last, tho' put in hands immediately on its arrival, has been ~~& now just completed & will be returned immediately~~ delayed till this time, but is now finished & will be returned at once.

Your letter, post-marked April 8th, enclosing a draft, in favor of Mr. Tyler, for $400.– was duly received.

R. M. S.

Dr.

David Bradford, Esq.
Supt. Br. Mint,
New Orleans.

RG104 Entry 11

(Copy) (Page 1.)

New Orleans 24th April 1839

David Bradford Esqr
Superintendent of the Mint
Sir

In compliance with the direction given in your letter of this day, I beg leave to state the following facts – 1st On my being appointed clerk in the Treasurer's Office, I understood that in order to carry out the views of the government and throw into circulation as much small change as possible, which under existing circumstances could not be done without a slight deviation from the regular routine of business, you had directed that small coins should be given to all persons & for all sums from $5 to $100 of Mexican Peruvian, or any good dollars. But in consequence of the supply of Mexican bullion being temporarily cut off by the French Blockade, it was found necessary in order to get a supply of bullion for coinage to put a stop to this proceeding, and to require in every instance a deposite to be made according to the regular routine of business in the mint. It was decided that the minimum amount should be $100 – In consequence these small deposites of Mexican dollars became very numerous. The Melter & Refiner early in April told me that these small deposites gave him so much trouble, and that they were especially causing an unnecessary consumption of fuel – I replied I could not change the course adopted in the Office until

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I should receive further instructions. 2° A few days afterwards the M & R. adverted again to the system of depositing for small change, & obtained to me, given all applicants small change for dollars, & kept all the deposits by, until they amounted to a full melt — remaining further, the assayer returned his reports for Mexican Dollars 893. 894. & 895, and that he was sure they would on an average yield 896. I afterwards received instructions to receive small deposits and lay them by as proposed. I soon perceived however that there was confusion in the numbering in the weigh book: & here it may be proper for me to explain how the confusion in the numbering took place. The M & Refiner selected occasionally a deposit, and instead of giving it the number in the weigh book, he gave it his consecutive number — Let it be supposed that there were seven small deposits entered in the weigh books & numbered 91. 92. 93. 94. 95. 96. 97 — & that the M & R. selected 95 as suitable to his purposes in Melting clippings — if he marked it 91, because the last one he marked was 90 it is plain how confusion must of necessity ensue. This confusion he produced, and finding that a page of the weigh book was very much defaced by the alteration of numbers to make them agree with his numbering, I directed Mr Parker to remove the leaf and make a fair copy in the book — considering that book as merely a memorandum book, and the Register

as a true and important record. I was not aware of the impropriety of so acting in a public office — I deeply regret my error. In consequence of the great embarrassment and inconvenience thus produced, I obtained to the M & R. that I could not continue that system. Two deposits were made & entered in the weigh book that were not melted. On the 16th April Fickeen made a deposit of Hammered dollars weighing 322.30 gs & French Crowns 110.45 gs. Damian Casas also made a deposit of Mexican Dollars weighing 183.50 gs. On the original receipt, the weight of the dollars is returned 173.50. In the confusion arising from so many small deposits of $100 I made an error and threw in 10 gs too much for Casas' deposit of dollars which accounts for the difference of weight; I mentioned this to the M & R. observing I do believe I have made some error here; And I firmly believe that it was this circumstance which prompted him at first to deny having received that deposit — The 10 gs too much that I have paid to Casas, I have charged to myself.

3° All the bullion received as soon as the assayer had taken off a sufficient portion for assay, was pooled to the M & R. at his request, he stating that he was always in want of bullion to keep his men at work.

4° Up to that time the M & R. had treated me with great kindness, conversing with me in an unreserved manner & demonstrating an uncalled for friendship.

5th The M & R. told me to ask the assayer to report

all the Mexican Dollars at 896, without their being melted or alloyed, remarking that he could always save himself from certain assays by his reports heretofore had been 893. 894. 895, and that he M. & R. would be sure to make a profit of one half per cent. I told him that I was certain the assayer would do no such thing, and on his insinuating it again, I said that I would not be the bearer of such a message in proposition. He became offended and asked me for a settlement of account, which I proceeded to immediately. It was then for the first time that he said he had not received Damian Casas' deposits. I was at first induced to believe him altho' entered in his own book but on his asserting that it had never been melted, I at once perceived his motive and design, for I was sure that it had been melted, and that the weights had been entered after melting in the weighing book. I remember the minutest details of the examination, the weights having not yet been removed from the scales. He then said "You have it in the vault, you must have so much of the small deposits" The precise weights I do not recollect. I begged him to examine them. He himself helped me to carry out the box, and after weighing them the weights were found correct according to his own statement but without including the deposits of Damian Casas I need not speak of the two parcels each marked 99 made of 82 ozs of Jackson's Dollars by the M & R. &

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of which was said to be French crowns being marked 100 which was the original number of Damian Estate deposite. Your attention has been sufficiently directed to that subject. I have balanced my cash I found no excess, and I am persuaded that the M & R. had received the deposite of Damian Estate. I begged of him to examine his vault as he had done mine, which request was not granted.

I think proper to state further that at the time the M & R treated me kindly, on one occasion he returned a deposite of silver, that he had melted prior to its being assayed. when I was very engaged, he said he would weigh it himself, and on his handing me the weight I observed ~~to him~~ to him that it was 1190 short — he said "O never mind, we can make that up on other time; However when I was disengaged & weighed it I found that it was about 22 ozs short and when I pointed out the fact to the M & R, he said that it was nothing between us — we shall understand each other. There are very good situations in the Mint. I know an officer at the Mint in Philadelphia who was poor when he was appointed and is now worth $100.000.

On another occasion he brought in a half bronze dollar which he said belonged to a certain deposite, and that he had found it in the bottom of the pot, There was no such kind of dollar in the deposite to which he

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alleged. And again a small deposite of German Gold Coins weighing 5 ozs was returned by the M. & R. weighing 7 ozs as I read the number and value of the coins. He saw that he was wrong, and observed that he must have made a mistake. He then took it back with him, and sometime after returned it, but did rather over the original weight. The standard was only .869. that is three millieems below the average standard of the same coins, a very large number of which have assayed here for the Broker.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt. Servt
M. D. Dimitry
Clk

(Copy)

U. S. Br. Mint New Orleans April 25th 1859

Dr Sir —

In answer to your note of this date respecting the turning a Leaf out of the weigh Book of Silver Bullion and requesting from me the facts and circumstances in regard to it — I did it at the instance of the Chief Clerk Mr Dimitry on or about the 22nd instant he stated to me at the time that it was the intention of the Superintendent to change the mode of Melting in some way, I did not at the time understand the operation but have since learned that it was to reserve the small deposites until a considerable amount was collected and there being several in at the time he said it would alter the Numbers on the Book, and he cropped out all the numbers and in doing so blotted the Book he then told me to tear out the Leaf and reenter the deposites which were on the Leaf and at the same time to make the Numbers correct as they should be which I did I still have the Leaf in my desk (which was torn out) (I think this is all that took place) — We Looked at the Assayers Reports for the deposites that had been assayed and only Copied them on the Book and those that had not yet been melted were put into the vault and made a Large deposite or melt of as was directed by the Supt.

Respectfully Your Obt Servt
R. Parker

U. S. B. M. N. O.
May 17. 1859

Sir,

I could not have the foregoing copies of the statements of the Clerks ready in time to send yesterday and think proper to send them to you to day.

Yr Faithful Servant
David Broadfoot
Supt.

To Dr R. M. Patterson
Director Mint
Philada.

RG104 Entry 11

From
David Bradford, Esq.
Supt. N. O. Br. Mint.

Dated Nov. 17.
Recd " 25. } 1859

Extract
Dr. R. M. Patterson
Director of the Mint
Philadelphia

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Branch of the Mint of the US
New Orleans April 24. 1839

Doctor R. M. Patterson,
Director of the US. Mint

Sir,

I am under the necessity of making known to you a serious difficulty which has occured this morning in the mint, – and request your opinion, as upon it rests my determination of remaining here or not. – On the 16th inst. two deposites were made; – the first deposite two numbers, one of hammered dollars & the other of french crowns. – the last deposite mexican dollars, supposed to be about two hundred. – The first deposite (one no. of 321 ozs & the other of 110 ozs) was melted, but the Mexican coins were retained by the Treasurer to be reported on without melting, agreeably to an understanding with the Superintendent, (who is the acting Treasurer,) and who informed me that it was consistent with the views of the Assayer, – the quality having been fully ascertained, having previously melted a large number of small deposites of mex-coins, and also as it was the usage of the principal Mint. – I had received some bullion from the Weigher the day these deposites were made and had been in the practice of receiving them as soon as reported, that I might use them with the clippings, being out of bullion. – When I again recd. bullion from the Weigher, which was in a few days after the above, I found among the Assayer's reports one of number 98 corresponding in weight, name, date

and kind of coin to the deposite of Mexican coin referred to, which had been retained by the Treasurer as above mentioned: — I remarked to the weigher that No 98 was not among the parcels of bullion delivered at that time, he said I had it and went off. — after convincing myself that it was not the case, I informed the Treasurer of it & refused to take the bullion then in the weigh-room, until the difficulty was adjusted. — On examination of the weigh-book I found that some of the depositors names had been removed by taking out two pages and ~~that~~ the numbers altered in such a way as to produce the greatest confusion. I immediately requested of the Superintendent that an investigation be made befor all the Officers; knowing that if left to himself it would be passed by without any action. — Mr Bradford agreed to my request but posponed it until the following day: On the following morning I called on him but he positively refused to have any of the Officers present after consulting with Dr Hort; who declined having any thing to do with it; I then proposed that Mr Gordon be present, but that he also refused. — We then commenced an examination of the books and the bullion on hand, also the person who melts the deposits. — The weigher still insisted that the deposite in question had been melted and assayed, but offered to make up the deficiency — Mr Bradford was determined to sustain him although the leaves had been torn out of the book of original entries, the numbers altered, and the young man who melts the deposits - was positive that number 98 had not been melted, not only having a distinct recollection of no such deposite being sent out, but keeping a memorandum on a slate in the melting room of number & date of the deposites melted: As the Assayer said that he had not reported on any deposite not melted & the report of the assayer lay before me, I must confess I was brought to my wits end. — Mr Bradford then offered to give me an official letter to satisfy me, to remove all censure, although he believed the deposite melted & assayed, but in some way lost, - a letter of that kind might have satisfyed me twelve months ago, but I have seen so much of this kind of work in the mint, that I was determined not to let it pass so easily. — In the evening Mr Bradford informed me, that Dr Hort had made some investigation by assaying the bullion on hand &c, and was satisfyed I was correct in what I contended for, that the bullion had not been melted. As the matter weighed a good deal on my mind, the following morning I was induced to examine more closely the assayers reports and found the clue to the whole affair. — The numbers had been changed by the weigher to answer to the nos. of the weigh book - No 100 had been changed to 98 the deposite in dispute - he had filled up a blank with the name of depositor, weight & kind of coin corresponding to the deposite no 98 but numbered it 100 & when returned altered it to 98, I saw another number altered but was prevented from investigating any further. — Mr Bradford still sustained the weigher saying that the alteration of numbers had nothing to do with the assayers reports - although it

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is well known that the assayer's register must correspond to the register of the Treasurer in number, and also with the weigh-book & Melter & Refiners books: I have stated the matter to you briefly, not being able to give you on paper the impressions that the strange conduct of the Superintendent in this matter has made on mind - I can have but one opinion in regard to the weigher & that is, that he intended to defraud, which in an unguarded moment I told him.

Express Mail.

PAID

Doctor R. M. Patterson.
Director of the US Mint.
Philadelphia
Pa.

Single

Our Treasurer is unfit for his office & it is altogether impossible that any amount of business can be done with such a Treasurer. - I am confident no a/c has been opened for me for I have asked twenty times for a settlement & have always been put off - There has not a warrant passed between me & the Treasurer since last August & that one was not correct - I could fill ten pages with such statements but let this suffice for the present. I remain Your Humble Obt Svt. Ira Magaw, USA

RG104 Entry 11

David Bradford Esq.
Supt. U.S. Mint
N. O.

Assayer's Office 25 April 1839

Sir, When invited by you yesterday to meet the officers of the Mint for the purpose of investigating a certain affair which has transpired in the Treasurer's office, I felt it my duty to decline your proposition from a sense of propriety and decorum. You are aware sir, that third is one of the officers with whom I cannot personally deliberate in any business, who is always thrown into a violent paroxysm of passion whenever I happen to differ with him in opinion, and whose language under this excitement is unpathonably, overbearing, insulting & disorderly. At the same time I am as anxious as any of the officers to investigate the affair, & have alone in my office attentively & patiently considered all the facts of the case, & now have the honor to submit my opinion. It is evident that unless the numbers stamped on the Bullion which has been melted by the Melter & Refiner previous to its being assayed, correspond with the numbers of the deposits in the weighing book, it is impossible for the assayer to identify any deposit when called on to make the assay. Confusion & error must inevitably result. On the contrary no difficulty whatever can exist when the numbers correspond, & even if there happens to be more than one melt in a deposit, the different melts are counterstamped 1. 2. 3 &c. Now

number, say 99 identified one deposit with the entry in the weighing book, & the countermarking marks evidently the number & succession of Melts.

On Saturday April 20th I was called to assay three deposits. I found two portions of Bullion, each marked No 99 and countermarked 1, said to be one deposit, the first a melt of Mexican dollars — the second of French Crowns No 100 was pointed out to me as the second deposit, and No 101 as the third. Mr. at Rodgers had I to doubt that third were three deposits before me, as I saw the three numbers 99, 100, & 101, which corresponded with the entries in the weighing book. Again alike both parcels of bullion pointed out to me as the two melts of No 99 were countermarked 1 & 2 instead of 1 & 2, I thought it was an oversight of the marker, & as the difference of weight & assay identified the two separate parcels, I was satisfied with the explanation I received. But now I am told that No 100 is the second melt of deposit 99 — If so, I ask why was it so marked, & how could it do otherwise than mislead the assayer? The deposit in the weighing book has but the one number 99, but according to the above system of marking every thing is thrown into inextricable confusion.

I have however no hesitation in saying that as it requires the two numbers 99 and No 100 to make the weight of the said deposit, there can be no doubt but that No 100 belongs to that deposit, & represents the melt of French Crowns. I had consequently the deposit of Damien Cass which I had supposed to be assayed, & for which there gives a certificate, is missing.

I have after repeated assays found a difference of 1 Dr to exist between the two parcels of bullion marked 99, & said to be one melt. There appears from my report to be a difference of 2 Dr, because I deducted 1 is custom for the benefit of the Mint, 1 Dr from the largest melt No 100 gave by actual assay 896, but I entered it

No II

The Mexican dollars of Tichenor's deposit No 99, weighed 320 oz an amount of Silver that the Moulds will easily contain. It is worthy of remark then that they were divided into two parcels of Bullion. It was unnecessary, as it cannot be supposed that either the Melter & Refiner or his workmen are ignorant on this subject. It would seem to have been done designedly to embarrass, particularly when it is recollected that the second melt of that deposit consisting, as it was then supposed of French Crowns, was marked 100, the number of Cass's deposit in the weighing book, whilst the two parcels of Bullion resulting from the melt of Mexican Dollars were marked 99. — My attention is now called to the French Crowns. And what has become of them? In Philadelphia and here, they have always averaged 900 Dr whilst the Bullion returned by the M & R as being those Crowns gave the title after repeated assays of 896 the average standard of Mexican Dollars. Tichenor who made the deposit is a Porter in the Merchants Bank & is considered by the Money Broker as second to no man a judge of Coins, the idea of their having been counterfeit Crowns is very improbable, & there must have been money to make a difference of 13 Dr on so small a deposit as 110 oz. The cost in the Treasury Office has been balanced, & has been found to be right. The entries of weighing, reweighing, & delivery to the M & R of Cass's deposits, are found in the Treasurers books, & moreover in the M & R's own book, a decisive fact of which I was not aware when I wrote my first letter.

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But again, after these entries had been made in the weighing book, & in the M&R's book, I am informed that the M&R, aware that he was charged with Casa's deposit, stated to Mr. Dimitry one day that he ought to have a certain specified amount of Bullion in the Vault. Mr. D proposed to weigh it, he was aided in the process by the M&R, and the result accorded within two or three ounces with the M&R's calculation. It is evident that his calculation must have been based in the entries in the weighing book, & seeing these entries, would he not have included Casa's deposit in the amount specified, if he had not received it? To my mind a certain conclusion that he did receive it.

From the consideration of these our facts, I am of opinion that the M&R has received Casa's & Fichemer's deposits, & that the Mysterious Collar of Casa's deposit took the place, by design or inadvertently, I pretend not to say, of the French Crowns, & that the French Crowns have never been exported, that they have disappeared, & probably have gone into the pot with other bullion, a mistake that might easily occur when clippings are being melted, & when there are so many small deposits as we have had lately.

Respectfully, Yrs

Wm B Root

Appraiser

(a copy)

RG104 Entry 11

995, Consequently by striking out the entry in my book accompanied by an explanatory note, the error will be rectified so far as I am concerned. I have however to request that my report of Dominica Cases deposit be returned to me. The Melter & Refiner then, as the titles of the supposed second melts of 99 & of 100, happened to be exactly alike, will experience no difficulty & sustain no loss by taking them as they now stand Nos 1 & 1 of 99 at 994 & No 100 at 996.

My opinion then is that the Melter and Refiner is clearly exonerated & sustained in his position in reference to Cases deposit, and that the error exists in the Treasurer's Department. That the irregular numbering inevitably led me into error, & most probably produced the mistake in the Treasurer's Department. But that in reference to the other position of the Melter & Refiner, that he never melted the said deposit of Cases, I am inclined to believe that he did receive & melt that deposit, because how otherwise would the weight after melting appear on the weighing book.

Furthermore I am constrained to say that I firmly believe that the Melter & Refiner has repeatedly endeavored to lead you into error, so as to afford ground for accusation by this original firm office. I have ample testimony to establish this point, but will select a single case by way of illustration. In the month of July last when Mr Little was Clerk in the Treasurer's office, there occurred great irregularity & confusion in the entries in the weighing book. I fortunately discovered it, & requested Mr Dunk the chief clerk to speak to Mr Mark on the subject. His reply was that he had nothing to do with it, & that I might find it out as I could! — Respectfully Yrs

Wm P. Hart Asst

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Br of the Mint of the Us. N.O. April 27 1839

Doctor R. M. Patterson
Director of the Us. Mint.

Sir,

I have found on reading over the copy of my letter to you of the 24th. inst., that it will be necessary for me to give some further explination, that you may be more fully informed in regard to our difficulties. – You may be at a loss to know what will be done for a voucher for no. 100 if the Assayer's report No 100 was changed to No. 98 – The deposite of french crowns & hammered dollars spoken of in my former letter, was by direction of the Weigher (putting into the boxes of coins sent out to be melted the numbers on paper) stamped No 182 of 99. – I have always objected to this way of numbering, proposing the method adopted at the principal Mint of continuing the numbers for a considerable time – which has been some times followed but owing to the frequent changes in the clerk of the weigh-room it has been changed. – Being in the weigh-room at the time the deposite of F.C. & H.D. was brought in, I pointed out to the Weigher, how much better it would be to continue the numbers – he agreed with me & accordingly had no 2 of 99 stamped 100 – There were two bars of No 99 & one of No 100 – An assay was taken from each of the bars – two Assayers reports are in the Treasurers possession – One No 182 of No 99 answering to the deposite of F.C & H.D. spoken of above, the other originally No 100, changed to 98 by the Weigher without the consent of the Assayer, and then answering to the deposite of Mexican dollars in dispute. – The weigher remarked at the time I told him the bullion in question was not among the bullion then about to be delivered. – The weight of deposite No 98 is wrong, it should be 173 ozs some decs (the lot of 200 mex & the amt said by him at the time to have been deposited) instead of 183 ozs some decs the lot on the weigh-book, although he had paid the deposite in small change, which was reported to be $212 or thereabouts. – I said if that be the case, it is a singular coincidence that the same mistake should occur after as befor melting; his reply was, that the weights remained on the scale until it was melted & as it weighed the same he did not think it necessary to examine the weights – again, two deposites of mex $ of 100 $ ea had been received by the Treasurer befor this deposite & had been ~~[illegible]~~ kept by the Treasurer (to be reported on, as explained in my letter of the 24 inst agreeably to the usage of the principal mint) until two or three thousand dollars should be rec^d befor delivering them to the M & Refiner: again – when I discovered that an assay had been taken from each of the bars & pointed it out to the Superintendent, he immediately went to the Assayer and returned with an assay piece as when cut from a bar, saying the Dr had discovered he made a mistake in taking three assays instead of two & had put it by. – again, I have requested that the accounts of the Treasurer might be brought up to see

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if the deposit in question might not be found, which I believe has not been done, although the clerks & Mr Bradford and I believe Dr Hart as he was in the Office, were at work all last Sunday, a thing I am sure you will disapprove of — Now for some explanation in regard to the report of the Assayer to the Superintendent in reference to this matter. I will first give the parts of the report which I consider most important & then show you why the Assayer finds it necessary to resort to such trifling arguments to sustain himself and his friend Demetry. The following is the report — "My opinion then is that the Mr Refiner is clearly exonerated & sustained in two of his positions in reference to Casas deposit*, and that the error exists in the Treasurers department. That the irregular numbering inevitably lead mistakes, & most probably produced the mistake in the Treasurers department. But in reference to the other position of the Mr R. that he never melted the said deposite of Casas, I am inclined to believe that he did receive & melt that deposite, because few otherwise would the weight after melting appear in the weighing book*. Furthermore I am constrained to say that I firmly believe that the Mr R. has repeatedly endeavoured to lead me into error, so as to afford ground for accusation & my dismissal from office. I have ample testimony to establish this point, but will select a single case by way of illustration: In the month of July last when Mr Sillie was clerk in the Treasury office, there occured great irregularity & confusion in the entries in the silver weighing book. I informally discovered it & requested Mr Sard the chief clerk to speak to the Mr R. on the subject. His reply was that he had nothing to do with it and that I might find it out as I could." As to the first clause it is unnecessary to notice it as my letter I think have fully explained my views in regard to it, but the last is of a more serious character — The Assayer discovers great ignorance of my business, if he believes me responsible for the manner in which the clerks discharge their duties in the weighing room, although I do not believe that any great confusion and irregularity will be found on the weighing book, if so ~~it is~~ the Treasurer is responsible — in regard to melting for the Treasurer, it will be found on examination that the loss is much less in melting than at the principal mint & the melting promptly attended to, which if I understand my duties is all that is required, but I have on all occasions shown every disposition to explain & accommodate & it is false, that I should have said he might find it out as he could — as to the numbering my men will testify that I have repeatedly requested them to use great care, & as the direction comes from the weigher & as I never make an entry in the weigh book I cannot see how the Assayer's remarks in regard to irregularity &c of the entries in the weigh-book will apply to me — I repeat again that on examination of the weigh book no such irregularity in the entries will be found — The secret of the whole matter is this, the Doctor makes great mistakes in assaying silver containing gold & he well knows it & unless he can throw the responsibility on some one he is in a bad way — I have from time to time found out these mistakes & fortunately for me they have been in the greatest number of cases in favor of the Mint. The first separation I made I found I was a good deal short & when I informed him, he treated it with great indifference which made my situation I assure you very unpleasant. After a time I found I had a considerable excess, which I informed the Superintendent & informed him to what depositor it belonged and the amount, being about $140, which I am pretty ~~sure~~ certain has not been settled although the person who made the deposit lives in N.O. A few days ago having finished separating I informed the Superintendent that I should have a considerable amount of gold more than necessary to make up my ozs without requiring any wastage (say between four & five hundred dollars) & that I would show him & Dr Hart my books & the way in which one at least of the mistakes occured & also point out the deposits from which I believe the gold was separated. After conferring with the Dr Archer (the Superintendent) & examining the book, he said he did not believe the Dr could make such mistakes, and so the matter has remained. You will see the necessity of the Assayer taking ~~the~~ advantage of the present difficulty to get rid of the former one — As to my doing any thing to lead him ~~astray~~ into error &c. if such be the case, I should be removed immediately, for I am acting a most guilty part. There has never been any thing done by me to which the Dr could object, but it was done by the consent of the Superintendent & the knowledge of the Coiner — When I had reason for doubting the correctness of the Assay — I had a few melts divided so as to have two assays from the same melt & when I found he made a slight difference I informed him of it immediately & he reassayed — In such a course there could not possibly be any injustice done to any one, only that the Assayer would

* The deposite in dispute

* Every other deposit in the weigher's book has that has been melted, but that the weight said in the receipt book is the same as the deposit.

have two assays to make instead of one. — But a more singular position than all is this; the Superintendent contends that my books not being mentioned in the law are of no account. It is truly amusing to see the manoeuvering of the Superintendent to get over this matter. I called on Gen. Gordon & explained the whole matter to him. He said it was what he had expected seeing the new appointed as clerks for the Treasurer; he advised me to write to you immediately explaining all the circumstances. He has often when visiting the Mint warned me to be on my guard or I would be ruined: I send you a copy of letter received from the Weigher who is the one I must transact business with in the settlement of my accounts with the Treasurer.

Doctor R. M. Patterson.
Director of the U.S. Mint.
Philadelphia.
Pa.

Expressly Mail.
Paid.

To Jas. Maxwell Sir. You have accused me of fraud. The cause of your enmity towards me, is the little regard I have paid to the numerous hints & suggestions on your part to subserve your vile purposes. Your conduct deserves chastisement. I shall try to administer it. Whenever & wherever I may meet out of the precincts of the Mint, it is my firm determination to attack you. I warn you to be on your guard. M. D. Dimety —"

In regard to the contents of this & the former letter I do hope that you will make a thorough investigation. & particularly in regard to my trying to lead the assayer into error. I remain Your Humble & Obt Servant.

James Maxwell
Melter & Refiner

P.S. The proportions of acid used by us is about 1 to 30 Mr B. being wrong in the order

RG104 Entry 11

Mint of the United States,
April 29th, 1839.

Sir,

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 13th inst., in answer to mine of the 5th proposing certain inquiries respecting the operations of your Mint. I thank you for the explicit, frank, and comprehensive answers which you have sent me. They have been communicated to the Secretary of the Treasury.

It was to be expected that the principal delays & difficulties would occur in the Coiner's department; since the machinery which he employs is extensive and complicated, and the first arrangement of it was necessarily entrusted to an individual not connected with the Mint or acquainted with its operations. Mr. Tyler is an accomplished mechanician, however, and, though he may be slow in his work, is sure, and will, in the end, have his department in fine order.

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I believe, with you, that your school will be able to accomplish the objects for which it was founded; and, whatever may be the course adopted as to the other Branches, I hope that a full and fair trial will be given yours.

P. M. P.

To
David Bradford, Esq
Supt Br. Mint
New Orleans.

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25
4

100 / 1500 (1442
100
460
416
440
416
24
218

RG104 Entry 11

From/
Jas. Maxwell, Esq.,
Melle & Refiner,
Br. Mint, New Orleans.

dated April 24.
rec'd May 6. } 1839.

May 1839

RG104 Entry 11

U S B[illegible] Mint New Orleans
[illegible]day 2nd 1839.

Sir

I herewith enclose my Monthly Reports for the months of March and April of the Bullion received and the Coins struck in those months at this B. Mint.

I received yesterday your letter of the 20th April last and the two bills of lading enclosed.

On the last of March I directed the Treasurers Clerk to make out the enclosed Report for that month who a few days after not finding it called on me for the form by which to make it out sent from the Mint, and I regret to say that I have mislaid it as well as your letter of the 14th of February 1838, having kept both together, but hope the enclosed reports will be satisfactory, and will be thankful to you for another form as I may not by the end of this month if ever find the one I have lost or mislaid.

Very Respectfully
Your Humble
Servant
David Bradford
Supt.

To
Dr R M Patterson
Director
Mint Philada.

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RG104 Entry 11

Monthly Statement of Bullion deposited for coinage at the U.S. Br Mint N. Orleans & of Coins delivered by Coiner to Treasurer

1859			Stand.	Weight	Dolls	Cents	1859		Half Eagles	Eagles	Half Dolls	Total	Amt
Mar.	1	Geo. Harvey Mex Coins	105	12	119	99	Mar 5			15.000		1500	00
"	5	J. Cordero Mex bullion	504	06	586	47	" 7			215.000		21500	00
"	"	Pedro Olivary do do	47	45			" 8		10.000			500	00
"	"	do do do do	44	80			15		40.000			2000	00
"	"	do do do do	68	11	352	58	25		90.000			4500	00
"	"	do do do do	59	82	739	05	Apl 6				64.000	32.000	
"	"	do do do do	51	50			12						
"	"	do do do do	807	16 44	32		16			50.000		5.000	00
"	7	M. de Cizardi Mex do	55	62	64	72			120.000			6.000	00
"	"	J. Cordero do do	502	91	552	47	20		10.000			500	00
"	"	J. M. Gorbarie Cont from Gold	8	57	9	74	25				56.000	18.000	00
"	12	M. Sutton Mex Coins	1605	08	1865	31	30			10.000		1.000	00
"	16	Robt Slaughter Foreign Coins	1625	52	1889	18				90.000		9.000	00
"	21	Vigers & Co Mex bullion	1297	50	1509	81			270.000	350.000	70.000	104500	00
"	23	Oates Mace do do	56	51	65	57							
"	"	do do from Gold	17	65	19	78							
"	25	Hyde & Co French Coins	260	69	303	28							
"	"	Shadrach do do	89	50	105	91							
"	26	Demetry Mex bullion	160	50	186	76							
"	27	Mc H. Kerr do do	151	06	175	71							
"	28	Hyde & Co do do	165	41	190	15							
Apl	6	E. Brewster & Co Hamb Dollars	49.03	98	00	114	05						
"	8	Jean Archer Mex Dollars	737	54	858	22							
"	"	L. Pavy do do	84	60	98	45							
"	"	Wm P. Hart do do	171	45	199	50							
"	"	Canal Bank Hamb Dolls	1555	69	1785	95							
"	"	J. Sarchet Mex Dolls	171	96	200	09							
"	9	Wm G. Burgess do	85	76	100								
"	"	Samuels do	129	85	151	09							
"	"	Macklin do	86	51	100	45							
"	10	Hart & Co Old Silver	86	55	100	45							
"	"	E. L. Richardson do do	171	84	199	97							
"	"	L. Holmes Mex Dolls	84	81	98	68							
"	"	Gordon & Co do do	88	80	103	35							
"	"	C. Boylen do do	86		99	84							
"	"	Scissles & Co do do	85	61	99	61							
"	"	J. Brown do do	85	31	99	26							
"	11	J. B. Taylor do do	101	55	118	17							
"	16	J. R. Loomis do do	212	74	247	55							
"	"	A. Costa do do	154	25	156	21							
"	"	Louisiana State Bank Hamb Dolls	412	66	480	18							
"	"	M. Sutton Mex Coins	597	28	694	96							
"	"	J. Cotton do do	171	60	199	68							
"	"	Atchafalaya Bank French Coins	86	42	100	46							
"	"	C. Viale Mex Dolls	1705	10	1981	78							
"	"	E. Monier Ham do	860	16	1000	90							
"	"	L. Barbat Oranges	191	86	221	52							
"	"	do Mex bullion	885	04	1695	41							
"	"	J. Young Mex Dolls	571	91									
"	"	J. B. Barrella Mex Bullion	86	02	100	07							
"	18	E. Tichnor Ham Dolls	91	14	106	05							
"	"	do French Crowns	319	40	499	20							
"	"	D. Casas Mex Dollars	109	61									
"	"	Atchafalaya Bank Sp Dolls	182	48	212	31							
"	20	B. Philbert Mex Dolls	1705	72	1984	85							
"	"	A. Molla Old Silver	127	82	148	15							
"	22	S. McStuffin Mex Dbls & Bull	80	82	94	05							
"	"	J. C. Fogley do do	179	57	208	97							
"	26	Demetry do do	1187	49	1381	80							
"	"	M. Hermann do do	1122	38	1306	04							
"	26	D. Williams do do	258	12	300	55							
"	29	C. L. Randall do do	1723	50	2005	52							
"	"	J. A. Rice do do	85	69	99	57							

		do do do do		66	11							10.000		500	00
		do do do do		58	50										
		do do do do		46	32					12					
										16			50.000		5.000 00
	7	M. de Lizardi	Hum	dlls	58	62	64	72				120.000			6.000 00
		P. Cordero	do	do	302	91	352	47				10.000			500 00
		J. M. Cochrane	Cert	from Gold	8	57	9	74		20					
										25				56.000	15.000 00
	12	M. Fetton	Mex	Coins	1603	08	1845	51		30			10.000		1.000 00
	16	Kott & Slaughter	Foreign	Coins	1625	52	1889	18					90.000		9.000 00
	21	Vigers & Co	Mex	Bullion	1297	50	1509	81				270.000	350.000	70.000	101.500 00
	25	Arto. Mace	do	do	56	57	65	57							
		do do	from	Gold	17	65	19	78							
	25	Hyde & Co	French	Coins	260	68	303	26							
		Quadras	do	do	89	50	105	91							
	26	Demitry	Mex	Bullion	160	50	186	76							
	27	Wm H. Herr	do	do	151	06	175	71							
	28	Hyde & Co	do	do	165	41	190	15							
Apl	6	C. Brewster & Co	Hav	Dollars	98	00	114	03							
	8	Jean Archer	Mex	Dollars	757	54	858	22							
		L. Davy	do	do	84	60	98	43							
		Wm P. Hort	do	do	171	45	199	50							
		Canal Bank	Hav	Dolls	1555	69	1758	95							
		J. Sarchet	Mex	Dolls	171	96	200	09							
	9	Wm G. Burgess	do		85	76	100								
		Samuels	do		129	85	151	09							
		Macklin	do		86	81	100	45							
	10	Hart & Co	Old	Silver	86	55	100	45							
		C. J. Richardson	do	do	171	84	199	97							
		L. Holmes	Mex	Dolls	84	81	98	68							
		Gorham & Co	do	do	88	80	103	35							
		C. Boylen	do	do	86		99	84							
		Stokes & Co	do	do	85	61	99	61							
		J. Brown	do	do	85	51	99	26							
	11	J. B. Taylor	do	do	101	55	118	17							
	16	J. R. Cromwell	do	do	212	74	247	55							
		A. Costa	do	do	134	25	156	21							
		Louisiana State Bank	Hav	Dolls	412	66	480	18							
		M. Fetton	Mex	Coins	597	28	694	96							
		do	do	do	171	60	199	68							
		J. Collins	do	do	86	42	100	46							
		Atchafalia Bank	French	Coins	1705	10	1981	78							
		M. Viale	Mex	Dolls	860	16	1000	90							
		C. Monier	Hav	do	191	86	222	52							
		L. Barbat	Oranges		885	04									
		do	Mex	Bullion	571	91	3695	41							
		J. Young	Mex	Dolls	86	02	100	07							
		J. B. Barrilla	Mex	Bullion	91	14	106	05							
	18	E. Tichnor	Hav	Dolls	319	40	399	20							
		do	French	Crowns	109	61									
		D. Cacas	Mex	Dollars	182	48	212	31							
		Atchafalia Bank	Sp	Dolls	1705	72	1984	83							
	20	B. Pfifferl	Mex	Dolls	127	82	148	15							
		A. Yolla	Old	Silver	80	82	94	05							
	22	S. W. Steffie	Mex	Dls & Bull	179	57	208	97							
		J. C. Foster	do	do	1187	89	1381	80							
	24	Demitry	do	do	1127	88	1306	04							
		M. Hancock	do	do	258	12	300	55							
	26	D. Williams	do	do	1723	50	2005	52							
	29	C. L. Kendall	do	do	85	69	97	57							
		J. J. Reid	do	do	178	32	201	68							
		G. H. Samuels	do	do	172	58	200	58							
		Geo Williams	do	do	95	77	109	11							
		L. Shaw	do	do	86	11	100	20							
					5198	55	6116	62							

Approved
David Bradford
Supt.

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Monthly Statement of Gold Bullion deposited for Coinage at the U. S. Br. Mint New Orleans

Date 1839		Description		Ozs Dec	Dolls 61
Mard	1	Jas Hepburn	German Coins	13.692	254.72
"	6	J. Olivares	Mexican Bullion	74.086	
"	"	do	do	91.790	
"	"	do	do	90.818	8.829
"	"	do	do	91.267	
"	"	do	do	107.555	
"	"	do	do	19.043	
"	"	J. Cordes	do	30.888	574.64
"	"	do	Cast from Silver	22.222	413.43
"	"	J. W. Zachain	Mex Bullion	53.060	987.16
"	"	do	do	13.455	250.32
"	"	Benoist & Hackney	German Coins	12.238	227.68
"	"	M. de Lizardi & Co	Mex Bullion	39.110	727.62
"	22	Atchafalaya Bank	Brit Coins	25.988	483.50
"	23	J. Davenport	do	25.967	483.10
"	"	A Mazie	Mex Bullion	90.489	1683.51
"	"	do	do	11.820	219.90
"	26	Benoist & Hackney	German Coins	73.990	1376.55
"	27	do	do	48.678	905.73
"	30	do	do	10.479	194.95
				946.635	17.611.81
				211.032	3.926.23
				735.603	13,685.58
April	6	Benoist & Hackney	German Coins	52.260	972.27
"	16	J. A Kelly	do	5.503	102.38
"	"	Benoist & Hackney	do	54.463	1013.26
"	24	M. de Lizardi & Co	Mex Bullion	168.388	3132.80
"	"	L. Ballat	Cast from Silver	6.618	
"	"	do	do	2.009	150.50
				289.241	5371.21

Approved
David Bradford
Supt.

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Monthly Report
of Silver deposits
and Coinage

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Monthly Report
of Gold deposites

RG104 Entry 11

Mint — U. S.

May 7th, 1839.

Sir,

Please to copy this letter on foolscap paper.

In a letter which I received yesterday from James Maxwell Esq., the Melter and Refiner of your Mint, he gives to me a statement of an occurrence which has caused me much uneasiness. The ~~stat~~ letter of Mr. Maxwell is somewhat obscure, but the case, as I understand it, may be summed as follows:

[Here copy from my letter to Sec. of Treasury, written yesterday.]

Thus far the transaction points to my mind a very bad appearance — but there comes, on the other side, the statement that ~~you~~ the Clerk of the Mint is sustained by you in his conduct, from which ~~circumstances~~ I infer that there are circumstances in the case unexplained to me, and with regard to which I beg that you will promptly and fully ~~explain your~~ present your views. I would ask, particularly, answers to the following questions.

1. By whom was the deposite of

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Mexican dollars made? Was it weighed, and a receipt given for it?

3. Was the deposite duly recorded at the time, and does that record remain on the book as originally made? Was the weight of the deposite 98? If so, what was it?

4. Is it customary with you to melt deposites of Mexican dollars for assay?

5. Does the Clerk state, attest that these dollars were given to Mr. Maxwell, or to the man who melts deposites for assay? If so, does he state any circumstances attending this delivery by which the fact might be ascertained, such as the presence of other persons, &c.

6. Did Dr. Hart, at the time, ~~in question~~ make any assay from bars of the Mexican standard, and which he could refer to the deposite in question?

7. Can any satisfactory reason be given for the removal of a leaf or leaves from the Weigh-book, and for the alteration of the number on the blank filled up for the Assayer, and returned by him?

8. At the time in question, were there any other Mexican dollars in the Treasurer's vault?

9. When your examination was made, on the occasion of the difficulty, were there any Mexican dollars in the Treasurer's vault, (I mean the vault to which the Weigher has access,) which might have constituted or included the ~~disputed~~ deposite in dispute?

10. What is the name of the Clerk of the Weigh-room? How long has he been in the Mint? What is the character which he bears?

I have felt it my duty to communicate to the Secretary of the Treasury the statement of Mr. Maxwell, as I have given it to you, and have stated to him that I would apply to you for a report on the subject. This will be looked for with great anxiety. The Mint must be kept beyond the reach of suspicion.

Yr David Bradford, Esq., R.M.P.
Sup. Br. Mint, N.O.

D.

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(Confidential)

New Orleans May 7th 1837

Dear Sir

I have duly received your favors of the 20th ult. and again I have to acknowledge the obligations I am under for the your kindness in executing my little commissions — In regard to the explanations given by you in answer to my letter of the 27th March, I return you my sincere thanks for the clear and independent exposition of the matters in question — It was precisely in effect what I have been contending for and what I have often appeared to Mr Bradford, to be your views and practice, and the obvious intention of the law — In fact I never supposed there was any "intrinsic difficulty" in the question, nor for a moment doubted that he understood the justice and propriety of the thing I had of the matter, and hence the vexation, and the danger there is that he will continue to pursue the same selfish policy — I have often wondered why it is that it seems my inevitable doom, to have some "rock ahead" of provoking as it is undeserved — I believe I have done and said all that duty requires of me, and as for "personal sacrifices" I have always borne my full share of them — I think I have before said that this order of things cannot possibly continue, and I now believe in all sincerity and respect that it is a total of disposition business as we ought to do, to save us from disgrace, without either a new Superintendent or a new Treasurer (an independent one who will stand between us and the Superintendent)

As what I wrote you about Mr Dimitry I was mistaken, and the new writer does not appear at all

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competent to the duties of the place — it is only a few days since I was rudely spoken to by Mr Bradford for having 40,000 half dimes charged which were not on Mr Dimitry's book, and finally an appeal was had to the deposite box to prove my account correct — I have been pursued with a list of deficiencies in boxes of coins counted and del^d by me to the Treasurer and recounted by Mr Bradford, one in which many boxes of 10,000 and 15,000 pieces proved short by 10 – 15 – 20 – and even 30 pieces — This I said was out of the question as I could not make but mistakes, and I heard no more of the list — I afterwards recounted by myself and my son ten boxes of 5,000 pieces each and finding them all exactly right they were recounted again in the Treasurer's office by when many of them came out a few pieces wanting one box in particular was 2 pieces short, to try them at my suggestion given again into the hands of the same individual in order to be by him to count every (he supposing it another box) and it came out 3 pieces short — Other circumstances convinced the Treasurer and Mr Dimitry that the man claimed to be not trustworthy in short that he was a thief, and refused after and to allow him to handle the billion of coins — Still however his situation as door keeper — This is the man who had been (long before) before spoken to myself and Mr Bradford as a dangerous man, believed to be a thief, and I had kept him as much as possible out of my rooms, and had begged the superintendent to get rid of him — From these and other circumstances I could mention I have strong doubts whether I could possibly obtain the dismissal though the superintendent spoke of any of my men, however I might find it necessary for the safety of my property — A day or two after the receipt of your explanations, I found it necessary to stop the works on Saturday morning at 8 o'clock on account Mr Bradford letting his men (coloured men and others) to washing and scrubbing the hall floors, although he had a week or two before agreed to my suggestion to do that work in the afternoon after the mint was closed at 2 o'clock

I forwarded to you, a copy of my last report to the superintendent, in which I was made the necessity of stating that the press had been damaged by an accident, I have since learned that the press was going at the time at the rate of about 120 pieces per minute so that the occurrence did not detract at all from the merits of the press, I am fully persuaded of the wisdom and propriety of its introduction into the United States Mint, It is stated in the report that the half dollar press was in question, I am sorry to say that I see since that the socket in the triangle is cracked so as to let the oil through — but I have not the slightest doubt of finally making that press as work as satisfactorily as the other which is now striking 40,000 pieces a day

With great respect
I am your sincere friend
and obedient servant
Robert Tyler

Dr R M Patterson
Director Mint

The United States — Dr.

To John Mitchell

For additional work executed under the altered plan submitted to and approved by the Honorable the Secretary of the Treasury on the 28th Decr 1835.

For Closing two doors in Engine room 1st and 2nd story		$20.00
" 666 feet of wall 1½ brick thick	an extra foot of wall down by order of the Comm. spinner 53256 bricks @ 20.	1065.12½
" 720 do do 4 do		
" 120 do do 1½ do		
" 75 do do 4 do		
" Closing and opening in Black smith shop		20.00
" filling up an extra foot in Centre building by order of the Commissioner. 104 × 96		1245.00
" do front wing & galleries 40 × 96		
" do extreme west wing & galleries 35 × 42 = 1660 yds @ 75/100		
" Changing two openings in 56 basement story		40.00
" 4 Extra Chimneys out of 56. 62 × 6	29.252	591.84
" 1 do over No. 18 26 × 6		
" 6 grain arches in rooms 6 & 7		1998.00
" Cutting out and filling up 3 openings fronting on the galleries one in the Centre of Engine room		80.00
" Cutting two loop holes in rooms 52 & 53		20.00
" Peter Cunningham's bills for repairs around extra chimneys		95.93
" Staging rooms 6 & 7. 202 yards @ $3.		606.00
" Extra flight of moulded steps		2510.00
" 105 feet of extra dwarf wall @ $7.50		787.00
" for foundation & plinths for dwarf wall		74.50
" Extra work in Kneading furnace		1637.00
" 2 walls in basement story 15 × 19	10260 ft. @ $20	205.20
" 2 do do under steps 15 × 19	10260 ft.	205.20
" 2 do do principal story	6624 ft.	132.48
" 2 do do basement story 23 × 15	17250 ft.	345.00
" 2 do do side of stairs west wing 24 × 32	25352 ft.	507.04
" 2 do 16 × 7	4032 ft.	80.95
		$12258.95½

The United States — Dr.

To Benjn. F. Fox

For additional work executed under the altered plan submitted to and approved by the Honorable the Secretary of the Treasury on the 28th Decr 1835.

For 4 doors complete in the hall and two in the principal story		$160.00
" 1 do large folding, from hall to rotting room		60.00
" 3 do under galleries 1st 2nd & 3rd stories N. wing		120.00
" 1 do leading from No. 1. to 3 Centre building		40.00
For flooring the following rooms		
No. 27. 15 × 32 No. 36. 15 × 32		
" 20. 15 × 24 " 21. 13 × 24		
" 22. 13 × 24 " 23. 15 × 24		
" 24. 15 × 24 " 25. 13 × 24		
" 38. 13 × 24 " 39. 15 × 24 = 2648 yds @ $20		729.60
" Two flights of wood stairs in place of stone		900.00
" for gridiers & 4 Columns Ionic caps and base		350.00
" additional hand rail &c for two flights instead of one		294.00
" Truss partition in each wing @ 97.50 each		195.00
" 6 grain centres		480.00
" finishing Ceiling of Galleries in place of plastering and painting the same		500.00
" Ceiling the 2nd and 3rd stories engine room 4500 ft @ 12½ cts		576.00
" Painting the same		175.00
" door and frame in gable		10.00
		$4629.00

The Superintendent of the Branch Mint of the United States in the City of New Orleans will be pleased to pay the foregoing accounts of Mess. John Mitchell and Benj. F. Fox, it being for additional work done on the building, as will appear from the detailed accounts — amounting to the sum of sixteen thousand Eight hundred and Eighty Eight dollars forty five Cents.

New Orleans 6th May 1839.

(sgd) Martin Gordon Sen.
Comr. &c.

Signed Duplicates

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The statement of Mr Maxwell is so obscure, that it is impossible to tell on what grounds he would impute fraud to the Weigher, or how deep the difficulty goes. –

To clear the subject of extraneous matter, we suppose –

1. That on a certain date, a deposite of Mexican coins was made; whether it was weighed or not, does not appear satisfactorily; as at first, he "supposes there was about two hundred" dollars in the parcel – and afterwards speaks of a number "corresponding in weight, name, date" &c. to the identical deposite.

2. This deposite was not melted.

3. In a few days after, it was declared by the weigher to be in the Melter's possession, as No. 98. Mr. Maxwell ascertained that this was not the case. A reference to the weigh-book proved, that some leaves had been torn out, and the "numbers altered in such a way as to produce the greatest confusion."

4. After much altercation, the affair presented itself in this entangled state: The Assayer was satisfied that the dollars had not been melted, nor assayed, nor reported on without assaying, & of course, that the Treasurer still had it. Yet there was his Report, ~~certifying~~ showing that it had, at least, been reported on, with or without assay. The Weigher offered to indemnify Mr Maxwell, & the Supt to relieve him by an official letter. But the Melter not being satisfied, re-examined the Assayer's report, and there found,

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5. That the Mexican dollars, which were originally numbered 100 (if this very obscure part of the letter is understood) was sent up as such to the Assayer, who reported on it; and after the return of the report, No 100 was altered to No 98, "to answer to the No of the weigh-book." Why it was numbered wrong on the weigh-book, does not appear; but hence all the confusion arose.

It appears to us that the weigher is chargeable with a reckless mode of keeping accounts; for nothing can be more dangerous to all parties concerned, than thus tampering with entries,—altering numbers, & tearing out leaves; yet it is not by any means evident that he intended to defraud; because

1. Suppose that Mr Maxwell had been charged with the dollars as No 98; how does it appear that he could have been re-charged with them? If that was the wrong number, the true 98 must have been displaced, or duplicated, and the error must have been exposed.

2. The Weigher offered to make up any deficiency; an unremunerable offer, on his part, as there is no fund for such a purpose; still, it shows an honest intention.

3. The Supt offered to explain & relieve, by an official letter; the construction, and the effect, of such a letter, cannot easily be seen, but at least it shows a fair spirit.

4. Mr. Maxwell, himself does not show how he would have been wronged.

Lastly, Mr. M. complains that he has not had a satisfactory settlement since last August. — We have decisive evidence, that such a settlement was had on the 31st December last, which received ~~the~~ his appellation, confirmed by his signature, some time in February following.

Upon the whole, we see nothing in this matter but cultivated proof of a want of mutual confidence & accomodation.

Very respectfully,

J. R. Eckfeldt, &
W. E. Dubois.

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Statement of the Assayers of the N. O. Mint in relation to the difficulty at the New Orleans Br. Mint on the 14th ult.

May 6. 1839.

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Mint U.S.
May 7th, 1839.

Sir,

Your letter of the 24th of April, which was sent by the Express Mail, was not received till yesterday. The circumstances which you detail, respecting the missing deposits, are very suspicious, and have given me great uneasiness. The course which it has seemed to me proper to take in the case has been, first to lay the whole matter before the Secretary of the Treasury, and secondly to ask a full explanation of it from the Superintendent of your Mint. In a matter of such delicacy, deeply involving personal character, nothing ~~can be done~~ ought to be done until both parties are heard. No further steps, therefore, can be taken, until I receive the report which I have asked from Mr. Bradford.

There is a remark at the close of your letter, with regard to which I must beg for an explanation. You say you are confident that the Treasurer has not found any

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account for you, and that though you have asked twenty times for a settlement, you have always been put off; also that no warrant has passed between you and the treasury since August last.

Now I write to Mr. Bradford, on the 5th of February, on the subject of a similar complaint made by you in a letter of Jan. 28th, and enquiries were made by him of the Treasury, to which replies were made which seemed to me satisfactory, but which appear to be inconsistent with your remarks in your late letter. I send herewith a copy of Mr. Forstall's communication and beg that you will explain to me the cause of the very different accounts which you and he present.

P. M. S.

To/ James Maxwell, Esq.
Mint & Refiner
Philadelphia, Mint Office.

[Here copy Mr. Forstall's letter to Mr. Bradford, of Feb. 16, 1829.]

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U. S. B. Mint New Orleans
May 8th 1839

Sir

Yesterday morning Mr Gordon the Com.r together with Messrs Mitchell & Fox, Contractors for this building, called on me and presented the account (of which enclosed you have a Copy) to me to give my order thereon to our Treasurer for its payment. I informed them that we had not funds enough to do it and that I would have to write to the Sec.y of the Treasury on the matter which I have done.

More than a year ago Mr G. told me that he feared he had paid M & F. too much on the Contract for the Building. Since then I have had them paid by our Treasurer for work not included in the Contract with the approval of the Com.r viz. to Mitchell, on the 28th July 1838 $6444.21 and to Fox, on the 11th September 1838 $1321.40.

Mr G. referred me to the Notary, Mr Cavillier, before whom the Contract for this building was Executed by himself and these Contractors, for all information on my first interview with him after my appointment; but some time after I understood some alterations had been made in the plan or drawings and I did not consider myself particularly charged with the execution and fulfilment of the Contract. I never [illegible] the plans and drawings till the first week of Ca[illegible]uary, when I was much excited at finding the [illegible]angements were so different from the original dea[illegible]

I have, [illegible]ted the Sec.y of the Treas.y to give me direct or thro[illegible] you such information and instructions in re[illegible] to the enclosed account as he may deem proper a[illegible]equisite for me. Your own views, directions and advic[illegible] the matter will be thankfully received, at your earliest con[illegible]ience, by Your Faithful Servant

David Bradford, Supt.

Mint of the United States.
May 9th, 1839.

Sir,

I have this moment received a letter from Mr. Maxwell, of the 27th ult., giving me further details with regard to the transactions connected with the deposit of Mexican dollars, on the 16th of April. I do not find, in this communication, any thing ~~bearing~~ ~~being~~ very particularly upon the investigation requested of you in my letter of the 7th inst., unless it may be that some explanation is given as to the confusion among the numbers, and that it leaves no still in doubt whether the 200 Mexican dollars were really missing from the Treasurer's vault. There is, however, a circumstance stated in Mr. Maxwell's letter which has excited my indignation, and to which I must pray your immediate attention. It is that a ~~[illegible]~~ note, of which a copy

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is subjoined, has been sent by Mr. Dimitry, (the Clerk of the Mint-room,) threatening a personal attack upon the Melter & Refiner. If Mr. Maxwell thought he had reason to suspect any one attached to the Mint, it was his duty to make his suspicions known, and, if the individual, thus ~~unfortunately suspected~~, has dared, while the matter was under official investigation, to threaten a resort to brute force for the maintaining of his character, I am sure you will see the propriety of dismissing him instantly from your employment.

P. M. P.

To / David Bradford Esq.

(Copy)

To Jas. Maxwell, Sir, you

P.S. A copy of the above letter to you, with Mr. Dimitry's note subjoined, is sent to the Secretary of the Treasury.

RG104 Entry 11

Mint of the United States,
May 9th, 1839.

Sir,

I send herewith a copy of a letter written by me this morning to the Supt. of the New Orleans Mint. The condition of things at that institution gives me much uneasiness. I consider it a bad feature in the transaction that Mr. Bradford has not been proper to write to me on the occasion.

Very respectfully
Your faithful Servt.
Signed R. M. Patterson
Director.

To
Hon. Levi Woodbury,
Secretary of Treasury

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17 (Private) Rock Island May 13th 1839

Dear Sir

It will be pleasing to you to learn, that, ~~since the~~ arrival to all our vexations and hindrances from bad superintendence the small press has done its daily duty for more than a week past, of 124 lbs (hundredweight) or 41,000 half Dimes per day without any kind of accident or hindrance, excepting the clipping of pieces and consequent crushing of the die, which was soon ~~mend~~,

The same number of pieces per day are the most she running upon Dimes — I am sorry to say that only about 100,000 half Dollars have been coined — It has however fully established ~~the~~ in my mind, the position I have always contended for (viz) that there is nothing in the quality of the force obtained in this way to produce a different effect upon a coin from that obtained by a blow or more sudden pressure — But that when the same degree of force is given, the slow pressure would in general rather have the advantage, in its effect upon a yielding body —

I am satisfied the power of our large press is ample for if Dollars, though it must be admitted, in a philosophical discussion of the subject, that the disproportion between the ~~the~~ effect produced and the weight of material employed, is a amazing, compared with that obtained by means of a blow from a hammer —

I am further satisfied that the system, will prove equally satisfactory when applied to the largest denomination of coin — I have been much pressed for the small coins still hoping to get a sufficient supply before hand, to allow me to resume the coining of half dollars — The disadvantages of change from one to the other are so great that I have avoided it as much as possible, but I believe that circumstances as we

RG104 Entry 11

before the public, we may make a handsome apology in the number of pieces struck — I expect to resume the coining of half dollars by the end of this week, and if the press holds out, you shall have a more satisfactory account of it, performance by the end of this month

You may wonder why I continue to endure the trials of which I complain, only in my private communications to you. The truth is sir, that in this hot climate, an Officer may not with impunity, speak disrespectfully, to or complain of, a subordinate, much less may he hope to prevail against his superior Officer, who has all power in his own hand, either to annoy by employing his Bullies, by misrepresentation to the Director, or to the Government, or by the fashionable burlesque of calling him to the field of honor, to defend his cause, which peradventure, he may not consider worth the trouble) either with the Rifle or Broad sword as his fancy may incline him

To be frank, and sincere, I really think that you owe it to us and to the corps, to give us your efficient protection, which I am sure of your wish to do, but which permit me to say, cannot in my opinion be done, through the medium of official communications from us — I would thank you to give me your advice in these matters, and to inform me if any communications have been made to you from any source reflecting upon my corps or conduct which you feel at liberty to communicate to me — and believe me to be

Sincerely and truly yours

Rufus King

To

Geo. R. M. Patterson

Director of the Mint, Philad.

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Mint U. S.
May 16th '39

Sir,

Your letter of the 7th & 8th instant was received yesterday and to-day.

Geo. Worley's bill, for the bell, has been already paid, on your order, though without notice from you. If your request for copy is attended to. ~~If~~ The pairs of Dime and of Half-dime dies are also ready, and will be forwarded as soon as possible. It is important that an acknowledgment of the receipt of dies should never be neglected. If lost or stolen, they might be used for dangerous purposes, and the fact should be promptly known, that measures may be taken to prevent the mischief. I make this remark because you have not acknowledged the receipt of the following dies sent to you, viz:

2 pr Dime dies sent Jan 30, 1839.
2 " Half dime " " " " "
2 " Dime " " March 18, "
2 " Half dime " " " 28, "

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I cannot suppose that two assay balances can be needed for your Assayer, if he had one that could be depended upon. Some defect in the knife-edge is a common occurrence, and easily remedied by a good Mechanic. I am sure that Mr. Tyler will adjust the balance if you request him. It would take a long time to make you a new one, and Mr. Saxton is fully occupied, — one of his tasks being the adjustment of the large weights for your Mint, which, after our waiting so long, for Mr. Hassler, I have caused to be brought here.

The claims of your Contractor are very vexatious. When I came to examine the plans for your Mint, I found several defects arising to be corrected, but nearly all the changes suggested arose from my desire to furnish, in the building, accommodations for the Superintendent, and the Coiner & Melter. This object I thought of great importance and I still think so. With these Officers residing in the building, the Mint is more safe, and the business more conveniently and therefore more effectually attended to. Besides, the salaries are too small to expend one place as New Orleans, and I felt it to be desirable that these officers should be relieved from the heavy item of rent. I perhaps do not understand what you mean by the original design, when you speak of being "much excited at finding the arrangements different" from it. The principal variation is one which has given you a home. It ought to be distinctly understood, however, that the alternative proposed and approved was decidedly calculated to make the building less costly. It was proposed, for example, to dispense with all the granite arches in your wing of the building; yet I see extra granite arches charged for. I see also an extra charge for substituting a wooden staircase for one of stone. It is impossible for me, however, to form any ac-

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curate judgment of this business, which business was now committed to my charge; — Gen. Gordon being the responsible agent. It is probable, ~~that~~ however, that the Secretary of the Treasury may apply to me in consequence of your communication to him, and I will then point out such views on the matter as my imperfect information may furnish to me.

P. M. P.
Jr

To/
David Bradford Esq.
Sup. Br. Mint,
New Orleans

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Mint U. S.
May 16th, 1839

Sir,

In a letter received this morning from Mr. Tyler, a case is stated which seems to me to require your particular attention. It exhibits the strongest circumstantial evidence that one of the Mint ~~hands~~ men, still kept in employment, has been guilty of purloining coin while engaged in counting them. This is a very grievous offence, being ~~a felon~~ not a simple breach of trust, but a felony, punishable by imprisonment at hard labor under the act of March 1835, and formerly, under the act of 1792, ~~punishable~~ incurring the penalty of death. I beg you for such information, as to this case, as may show your impressions as to the grounds of suspicion, and the reasons that induce you to allow the individual to remain in the office. Under my obligations of "general supervision" I feel it my duty to ask a report from you as to this matter.

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Ans

R. M. D.

To David Bradford, Esq.
Sup. Br. Mint
N. Orleans

RG104 Entry 11

To/ David Bedford, Esq.
Supt. Br. Mint
New Orleans.

May 16, 1839.

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U. S. B. Mint New Orleans
May 16th 1839.

Sir,

I received your letter of the 7th inst. yesterday in which you state that you have received a letter from James Maxwell Esq. the Melter and Refiner in this Branch Mint respecting very unpleasant circumstances that have recently occurred in the Treasurers Department of this Branch Mint. Without further recapitulation I shall proceed at once to reply to your interrogatories.

1st By whom was the Deposite of Mexican dollars made? By Damian Casas.

2nd Was it weighed and a receipt given for it? Yes.

3rd Was the deposite duly recorded at the time, and does the record remain on the Book as originally made? Was the number of the deposite 98? If so, what was its 100? The deposite was duly recorded and I have the original record. The original number of Lehmer's deposite was 99 and that of Damian Casas 100. In my answer to Interrogatory 77 will be found further information on this Interrogatory.

4th Is it customary with you to melt deposites of Mexican dollars for assay? If so, because the Assayer decided that it was necessary, having discovered that there was an unusual number of base dollars in circulation giving titles of 550 & 660 very difficult to be detected without an assay and because there was no regularity in the results of the assays, the titles having varied from 872 to 895 and one deposite from the Post Office of Mexican dollars was as low as 618.

5th Does the Clerk still assert that these dollars were given to Mr Maxwell or the man who melts the deposites for assay? If so, does he state any circumstances attending their delivery by which fact might be ascertained such as the presence of other persons &c? The Clerk still affirms that the dollars in question were delivered to the Melter and Refiner or the man who melts the deposites for assay, were weighed before melting, weighed after melting, redelivered after the assay, and the entry is to be found in the Melter and Refiners own Book.

After the most careful and anxious examination of this principal subject it is my deliberate opinion that the dollars in question were delivered to the Melter and Refiner both before and after the assay.

6th Did Dr Hart at the time make any assays from bars of the Mexican standard, and which he could refer to the deposits in question? He did. Herewith I send you his first letter, and an extract from his second, to me on this subject in the latter of which I fully concur.

7th Can any satisfactory reason be given for the tearing out of a leaf or leaves from the weigh book and for the alteration of the number on the blank filled up for the assayer, and returned by him? For some time before this unpleasant occurrence took place we had received daily a number of small deposits consisting for the most part of one hundred Mexican dollars each. The Melter and Refiner informed me that great expense was incurred by melting these small deposits and that he thought it would be best to keep them until they should amount to a full melt say $2,000. He said the depositors might be paid at once in small coins, that he would take them at the average of 86.58,02, for every $100, and that the assayer could give a Certificate without an assay at 896. This the Assayer refused to do but proposed that the deposits should be regularly entered in the weigh book, and the depositors paid, that when there was an amount of $2,000, it should be melted, weighed and assayed, the proportional weight should be determined for each depositor, entered in the weigh book and a Calculation made from the average table — If any loss occurred that it should be covered by a drawback warrant, and if gained by an equal gain in another melt. The obstinacy of the Melter and Refiner and the errors in numbering in his department to which my attention was several times called by the Assayer is in my opinion the cause of the confusion in the numbers of the deposits in the weigh book and the tearing out a sheet very improperly I admit under any circumstances, but in this instance I am sure it was done without any evil intent or design. I fortunately have it in my possession. I would further add that I was not sufficiently explicit in giving directions to the weighing Clerk.

8th At the time in question were there any other Mexican dollars in the Treasurers Vault? Yes.

9th When your examination was made, on the occurrence of the difficulty, were there any Mexican dollars in the Treasurers vault (I mean the vault to which the weigher has access) which might have constituted or included the deposit in dispute? This question is answered above in the affirmative but a fact which is to be found in the Assayers second letter would seem to be full and explicit. The Melter and Refiner knew that there was an accumulation of Bullion in the Treasurers vault. He made a calculation of the amount from his own book and the weigh book. Damian Cadas' deposit, the one in question, was in his book, and its delivery to him was recorded in the Weigh Book; in the view of all these facts he made his calculation of the number of ounces, not including the Casas deposit, the weight confirmed his calculation.

10 What is the name of the Clerk of the weigh room? How long has he been in the Mint? What is the character that he bears?

M. D. Dimitry is the and has been since the 9th January last the Clerk and weigher since the 16th of January. He is the one most concerned in this difficulty. Richard Parker is the other Clerk and at this time Weigher. I appointed him on the 11th of April. He did not enter on the duties till the 18th after this difficulty had occurred. More Conscientious, honest men I believe there are not to be found in this world, and this is the opinion entertained of them by the most respectable persons in this section of the Country.

I have now answered your several questions, and have to remark that notwithstanding the causes I have assigned for the confusion in the numbering of the deposits in the weigh-book and the consequent tearing out of a sheet, I admit there has been great carelessness; you observe unpardonable carelessness; permit me to assign the reasons why I cannot concur in the use of the hard term 'unpardonable'. I am [illegible]ed by a person in whom I have full confidence, that in May 1838, [illegible] Melter and Refiner and the Coiner in this Branch Mint, several times in conversation stated, that they must get rid of every southern Office[illegible] creoles and all who spoke French, that these places should be supplied by persons from Philadelphia, and that then they could manage the Mint as they pleased. Of this intention I have no doubt, as their conduct ever since has been such as to confirm me in this impression. The Melter and Refiner has alternately attacked the Assayer and treasurer and uniformly every Clerk that I have appointed. He has withheld information which he ought to have given it to the Clerks and he has done every thing in his power to entrap the Assayer, & embarrass the operations in the Treasurers department. Mr Dimitry is a profound scholar and scientific man, but easily confused and has been overawed and confounded by the overbearing, bow-beating and dictatorial conduct of the Melter and Refiner and the Coiner: and to them I attribute his embarrassment and all the consequent confusion and difficulties. Mr Parker I have known from infancy and I know him to be strictly honest and indefatigably industrious, and extensively practically experienced in public business, having been for many years a

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deputy Clerk in the Circuit Court of Wilkinson County in Mississippi.
The Conduct of the Matter and Deputy and the Coroner has been such as to disgust every Person who has had any dealings or communication with them in this Premise Matt and I have thus to inform you, which I was engaged you doing yesterday on the arrival of your letter that I have written to the Secretary of the Treasury requesting their removal from a deliberate Conviction of its being my duty to make the application.
Accept my thanks for your frank and proper course in this matter and assurances of my highest respect

David Bradford
Supt.

Dr. R. M. Patterson
Director of the Mint
Philadelphia

Express Merch
Free
PAID

Steam Boat Magnolia Capt. Ashe
Just down
Date Aug 18th
Via Aug 24th 1839

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N. O. B. M. N. Orleans May 17. 1839

Doctor R. M. Patterson
Director US Mint

Sir, Your letter of the 7th inst. was received yesterday, & I hasten to comply with your request, in reference to my a/c's with the Treas^r. I am not at all surprised, after all that I have seen in this mint; that our Treasurer is made to reply so promptly & so much to the purpose in relation to the state of things in his Office. - If I thought the old gentleman qualified to give the information, I could not believe he would be guilty of making such wilful misrepresentations. - He is made to say, "I am not aware that any warrants have been drawn up (if he stopped here he would have been very near correct.) from the statements of the M. & R. alone, but the a/c^s have been compared befor full settlement." I have never signed but one warrant for gold and one for silver since the commencement of the operations of this mint & that was last August as stated in a former letter. A few days befor these warrants were filled up an attempt to make out my a/c's was made by copying in part from my books into a book corresponding to the one kept by the weigher of the principal mint. The person who attempted it not being an accountant, made so much confusion, that it was thrown aside as useless, since which time no regular (and I believe I am safe in saying no a/c at all) has been kept of the transfer of bullion to me. Notwithstanding the Treasurer is made to say, "The bullion a/c between the Treas^r & M. & R. has been opened & regularly kept &c". In regard to the annual settlement of a/c^s on the 22 Jany last. It might be enough to say, that Mr Bradford made that settlement with me, & it was just like the settlement in Augt last (if settlement it could be called as no warrants passed between us) and such a bungling piece of business I never saw. - The statements I believe to be correct as they were made to correspond to my books after copying a good part from my statements, (as it was too much trouble to make calculations) and I signed them at their urgent request - but not without informing them that it was not

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the way business was transacted at the principal mint – that the warrants always accompanied the statements sent to Wash-ington. Mr Bradford was of a different opinion & so the matter rested. – I believe a copy of the settlement in Jany last is made in the weighers book, & a few days since on delivering up the gold to the Treasurer, they made out my debit a/c from the register & opened an a/c in the weighers-book, which was correct in the amt of bullion delivered, but not as to date having made monthly charges instead of charging at the time the bullion is delivered. – As to my a/c's with the Tr. I have all along thought I was safe if I should be one of the parties in the settlement as I have taken care to receive all the bullion deposited & as the auxiliary books for ingots & clippings kept by Mr Tyler and myself agree. I have anxious by desired frequent settlements for in a place like N.O. every thing is uncertain except yellow fever & it is well for one always to have his house in order.

But this morning I have learned something new: being in the weigh-room when there was a deposite made, I opened the weigh book which was laying on the desk to look over the last deposits (which I have not done since my difficulty with Demitry as the books have been locked up) when the clerk removed it & put it into the desk – on asking for a explination for his strange conduct – he said Mr Bradford had ordered him not to allow me to see it – upon which Mr Bradford was called, who said it was not proper I should see it as the vouchers from the assayer were all that was necessary for my purposes. – You will remember that not long ago an order was given to the clerks to give me copies of the Assayer's reports. I was astonished that Mr Bradford would attempt anything of that kind just now; but the heathen proverb will hold good in this case: "That whome the gods intend to destroy they first deprive of reason."

These men at first attempted to change me from my position by harade, but finding it unsuccessful they are now trying what calumny will effect. – I thought I would not trouble you with the vile communications in reference

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to my character, which pass between the Assayer & the Superintendent, who thinks it all important that I should read them, so that I may reply & commit myself. — The Superintendent has gone so far as to direct that I should give him in writing certain verbal communications made to him in reference to the errors made in assaying & any other details or information that I might possess — Knowing his object I replied that as such details would have to be gathered from my books & as he had said my books were of no utility I thought it proper at this time not to say anything upon the subject — however he again directed as ~~to what~~ above & was more successful — the amount of all this was that I might say something for the Doctor to operate upon — & what follows shows the Doctors deep patriotism & great disinterestedness —

"J Bradford Esq &c

About three weeks ago, the M & R. reported to you verbally, that there was an excess of 280z Gold, that errors had been made in assaying certain deposits of Mess Zacharie, Lizardi & the Ex. Bk. Co. — & that what these depositors had lost should be refunded to them by our Treasurer — I requested that an official written communication should be made to you on the subject, that I might have an opportunity to defend myself against such a charge. I asked for nothing but what was right, just & necessary. — In three weeks however this communication was withheld, & in the mean time, the M & R has so far forgotten himself to state to Messs Alex. Gordon, Placide Forstall of the firm of Lizardie, that they had been wronged by errors in assaying to the amt of $150 which sum they ought to demand from the Treasurer of the Mint — I care not for any attack made upon myself by the M & R — but I regret deeply, that at a period when this Br. Mint is assailed by the Bk. Presses, & by the Whig party in congress, so as in the opinion of its best friends to make its situation critical, & its existence precarious, an officer should be found so closely allied with the opponents of the

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Mint & of the administration, as to pursue a course the most eminently calculated to destroy the confidence of the public & to give a death blow to the Institution — Last July, when the M & R charged me with a loss of about 4000 of Gold, there was so much prevarication, misrepresentation, & evil design, that in my letter to you on the subject, I stated that hereafter whenever I might be charged by the M & R with having made false assays, I should require a creditable witness to identify the Bullion — I have more reason than ever to maintain this position — The assertions & records of the M & R are alike rejected by me as testimony — & until he produces & identifies the Bullion & demonstrates by reassays that he is right, I shall believe that he is as much in error now as he was last July. — There may be an excess of gold, which however I believe can only be proved by re-assaying all the gold bullion in the mint or working it up into ingots — But then what has that to do with my assays — Errors in weighing may occur as well as errors in assaying, & occasion a loss or gain of metal — It is perhaps proper that I should assign one reason for my having no confidence in the statements of the melter & R in his communication to you this morning — I have kept a record of all the Gold I have assayed for the M & R since the settlement of his acct last August & I have witnesses besides — & I am confident that no man can identify Bullion which is marked as the gold bars have been — they were numbered as follows — 21 Jany 1837 — No 1
2
3
0
15 Feby — 5
8
11 Mar — 0
16 April — 1
1
19 " — 0
4 May — 0

How are bars that have no marks to be distinguished or identified? Or how is one number

1 to be distinguished from another No 1? The moment I observed this way of marking, I was persuaded that another attack on me was preparing, & I find I was right in my conjecture - There is an insinuation moreover that I cannot pass by - "In regard to the first Bullion separated it is difficult to say what depositor should have the excess, unless it be the Exr Bkg Co. the gold being returned at an average, which to me is something new in assaying". - That a man who knows nothing about assaying, should therein find something new, is by no means surprising. But the insinuation that I averaged without assaying, & consequently certified that I had done, what I had not done, I repel with the contempt it merits - It's a suspicion worthy of its author. - Every one of the 6 numbers containing gold was assayed - the gold was separated from each one & the result confirmed by the humid assay

Respts &c

(Copy) W. Hoot Assayer

The gold belonging to the Lizardi's - was found in a melt last June ~~[illegible]~~, owing to the report by Mr Eckfeldt stating that some of the assays sent to Philad. differed so much that there must be some error - I had the bullion in my possession & reported it to the Superin who had it assayed & it proved as stated - the Dr got over the blunder at the time by saying "some of the visitors had changed the assay pieces on his table" - This gold was not into my a/c on settlement last August - & had not been settled & never would unless I had stirred up the matter - I called on Mr Gordon & Forstall of the house of Lizardi - the former, at one time a partner in business with our Treasurer & the last named gentleman his nephew & I suppose on the most intimate terms & told them all about it - So much for the political part of this letter —

Now for the mistakes last July - it is astonishing to me that the Dr with all his cunning should be willing to have this touched upon - After I had agreed with the Superin - to push the matter no further - the Dr came to me in the most sycophantic manner & offered to make any deductions from deposites I would name to make up the deficiencies - Mr Tyler was in my room about this time when a slip of

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of paper was handed me by one of the men from the Assayer, stating that a deduction of 2 mills had been made from a very large deposite of Silver - this was intended to govern me in my calculations - I immediately wrote on the back of the slip of paper "a weak invention of the enemy" & had it returned to him & when he ~~called~~ complained of my severity I told him the allowance by law was sufficient & all I wanted was correctness - Mr Bradford cannot but remember that I contended at the time that the Assayer had no authority to make deductions. - now for the numbering - The numbered bars were fine gold - & the 2 bars of the same number were from the same melt - The bars not numbered were toughened - I have an a/c of number 4 on my book of melts - The long paragraph upon numbering is ridiculous - for it is a matter of no consequence how they are numbered so I can designate them - as the have all been worked up into ingots except the last toughening - As to the averaging it is a little singular

Then was another letter from the Dr On the same day which was of so vile a character that it was thought advisable not to embody it in the one preceding - It is as follows "D Bradford Esq &c

Since I handed you a communication in the forenoon of this day I have reflected on the subject under discussion & wish to state a few more facts. - Last year Mr Durel gave a deposite of Gold to the M&R to be melted prior to its being assayed - it was returned with a loss of 2ozs more than the law allows. Mr Durel observed it, & stated the fact to the M&R - who replied it is none of your business Sir! the next morning however he brought the 2ozs to Mr D. observing that he had found it.
On another occasion Mr Demitry was engaged when the M&R returned a deposite of Silver which he had melted - he weighed & gave the weight to Demitry who observed that it was short 11ozs more than the law allowed the reply was - O! that is nothing we shall

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the law
we shall

understand each other - it can be made up at another time
However when Demitry on being disengaged, weighed the
bullion, he found that it was about 22 ozs short on
stating this fact to the M & R - that officer again observed,
it is nothing - all we have to do is to understand each other
these situations in the mint are very important when there
is a good understanding - One of the Officers in Philad^a
was worth nothing when he was appointed & now he is
worth $100.000 - Another deposite of gold coins
weighing about 50 ozs was returned with a gain of 2 ozs
Mr Demitry pointed it out to the M & R who said
there must be some error & that he would take it
back & melt it over - He finaly returned it at
about the proper weight - now if the M & R possesses
the art of making 50 ozs of Gold weigh 70 ozs. then
is no difficulty in accounting for the excess of which
he complains, & which seems to be such a heavy burden
on his conscience. I beg to refer you to Mr Duval & Mr
Demitry for the truth of these statements both gen-
-tlemen being prepared & willing to give their testimo-
-ny before a magistrate (C/B) respectly
W P Hart assayer

This Duval spoken of was a most miserable drunkard
very little removed from an idiot owing to his habits
of life & Demitry was the gentleman who tore the
leaves from the weigh-book, altered the numbers
on the assayers reports &c - The D's aim at this
time is to make such a dust that the affair of
Demitrys may be lost sight of - but I feel confident
that no exertion on your part will be wanting to
have the thing properly investigated & that enables
me to bear up under my present trials & difficulties.
Mrs Maxwell has been confined to her bed for six weeks
past but is now convalescent - please give my respects
to the gentlemen in the mint. Your Obt & humble Svt
J Maxwell M & R Refiner

RG104 Entry 11

P.S. It might be well to mention that all the gold deposited in the mint since the commencement amounts to but 4252 ozs & in that petty amount errors to the amount of 36 ozs have been made against depositors ~~in~~ ~~a~~ ~~mint~~

L. M.

Free

Dr. Robt. M. Patterson
Director U.S. Mint
Philadelphia
Pa.

Express mail

L. Shutes

From / Jas. Maxwell, Esq.
Melter & Refiner
Br. Mint, New Orleans
Dated May 17.
Recd " 25. } 1839.

RG104 Entry 11

Mint U.S.
May 18th, 1839.

Dear Sir,

I received your letter of the 7th the day before yesterday, and immediately wrote to Mr. Bradford to get from him a report of the circumstances attending the suspected embezzlement of coins by the door-keeper. Your communication was marked confidential, but when such a thing suspicious of felony, committed in the Mint, is made known to me, I dare not keep it secret.

I am glad to find that you do not allow a single accident to injure, in your estimation, the character of the steam presses. We doubt a moderate speed is, on the whole, the most advisable.

The other matters contained in your letter are carefully noted.

R. M. P.

To
Rufus Tyler Esq
Coiner Br. Mint
New Orleans.

RG104 Entry 11

Treasury Department
May 18. 1839.

Sir

The enclosed letter received from the Superintendant of the Branch Mint at N. Orleans is transmitted for your examination & will thank you to report whether there has been any alteration in the plan of the building to justify the additional charges and whether the charges themselves are reasonable and should be allowed

I remain very Respy
Your Obedt. Servt

Sam Southard
Sec. of the Treasury

R. M. Patterson
Director of the Mint
Philadelphia

(Answd, & enclosures returned, June 10th 1839.)

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RG104 Entry 11

U.S. B. Mint, New Orleans.

Hon Levi Woodbury
Sec'y of the Treasury
of the U. States.

May 18th, 1839.

Sir,

I have to inform you that I have just made an arrangement with the Atchafalaya Rail Road & Banking Co. (of which J. W. Breedlove the Collector is President) to furnish the Treasurer of this Branch Mint with forty thousand dollars ($40.000) to take up the certificates of Deposites of Bullion for coinage issued from this Branch Mint, and which are urgently required by the holders to be paid, of which I have also informed you by this mail, and I have to request that you have placed to the credit of said Bank said sum of forty thousand dollars in the Mint at Philadelphia, and that you have me informed of the same by the return of the Express Mail.

If the above requisition cannot be effected I would then respectfully request that you have me furnished with a transfer draft on the Mint at

Philadelphia, for the sum of forty thousand dollars for the above purpose as was done by your Department on the 18th October, 1838 (No. 2271.) and was paid on the 11th February, 1839. by the Directors; and do me the favor to have the transfer draft forwarded to me by the Express Mail.

And if other arrangements be preferred by you, that I be informed of the same by the return of the Express Mail.

Very Respectfully,
Your Humble Servt.
(Signed) David Bradford,
Supt.

RG104 Entry 11

U. S. B. Mint New Orleans
May 19th 1839

Sir

I have received your letter of the 9th inst. in which you observe, "If Mr. Maxwell thought he had reason to suspect any one attached to the Mint, it was his duty to make his suspicions known, and if the individual thus suspected has dared while the matter was under official investigation to threaten a recort to brute force for the maintaining of his character, I am sure you will see the propriety of dismissing him instantly from your employment

Under the view of the case which it appears you have been induced to take from the representations in Mr. Maxwells letter, I fully agree with you that the immediate dismissal of Mr. Dimitry would be proper, but permit me, sir, to present what I believe to be a correct view of the case, and I am satisfied you will entertain a different opinion from the one you have expressed.

In all the conversations I have had with Mr. Maxwell on this unpleasant subject, I have uniformly told him that it was my deliberate opinion that Mr. Dimitry was as honest as any man that breathes, and that as far as my examination of the case had gone, I was under the impression that the Deposits of Damian Casas had been melted and alloyed. The documents I forwarded you on the 17th inst. will afford you a knowledge of most of the facts that produced in me this opinion.

Under these circumstances and aware that Mr. Dimitry was sustained as far as his character was in question by Mr. Forstall and Dr. Hort as well as myself, it was Mr. Maxwell who prejudged

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the case whilst it was under investigation and directly charged Mr. Dimitry in the weigh-room with fraud in presence of Mr. Forstall, Mr. Parker Mr. Dueing and myself, and repeated it several times — exciting the indignation of every person who heard him thus wantonly attempting to destroy the character of a gentleman for life. I assure you that no gentleman can receive such an insult in this City or in any of the Southern States, and maintain his character as an honest man and his rank in society without resenting it personally and promptly. Mr. Dimitry was restrained at the moment by respect for the place where the circumstance occurred and after waiting a day, giving an opportunity for a withdrawal of the insult, he addressed Mr. Maxwell the note of which you have received a copy and in which you will observe the chastisement threatened was to be without the precincts of the Mint, where the distinctions between Officer and Clerk do not exist.

Mr. Maxwell had Mr. Dimitry bound over to keep the peace, Mr. Forstall our Treasurer going his security in the Bond, and Mr. Dimitry having no other remedy left him has sued Mr. Maxwell for slander and the question of fraud will I hope, soon be determined before an impartial Judicial tribunal before which Officers and Clerks stand as freemen & equals.

Mr. Maxwell performed his duty in making known to me his suspicions but I did not agree with him and I consider his conduct outrageous in charging Mr. Dimitry with fraud under the circumstances, to wit, just after I had expressed to him the impression the investigation I had made and was still making had produced on my mind. I was engaged in writing my opinion on this question of the Dimitry case as deposit when Mr. Maxwell came into my Office and after hearing my frank and undisguised sentiments, dared to insult me grossly by remarking emphatically that I must be convinced that he was right and insinuating that I was sacrificing justice and truth for the sake of Mr. Dimitry. Indeed, Sir, his conduct in the Mint has been such as to disgust every gentleman ~~and~~ who has had any ~~thing to~~ business with him and every workman in his employment, and entirely destroyed my confidence in him and I am convinced that while he remains there will be neither peace nor harmony in this Branch Mint.

Very respectfully
Your Faithful Servant
David Bradford
Supt.

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U.S.B. Mint New Orleans
May 20th 1839

Sir

By this Mail I have forwarded to the Secy of the Treasy a Box of Assay pieces taken from Standard Silver and Gold ingots in this Branch Mint of which the Assay is reported as follows [as on the preceding leaf] by the Assayer of this Branch Mint, to be forwarded to you under his frank.

Very Respectfully
Yr. Hum. Servt.
David Bradford
Supt.

To
Dr. R M Patterson
Director
Mint
Philada.

RG104 Entry 11

U. S. Br. Mint Treasurer's Office
New Orleans May 20th 1839

David Bradford Esqre
Superintendent U. S. Br. M.

Sir

I herewith hand you assay pieces taken from Standard Silver Ingots together with the assayer's Report of fineness of each Melt viz

Melt No. 82	898.6	Melt No. 93	899.5
" 83	898.6	" 94	898.6
" 84	900.	" 95	898.6
" 85	899.5	" 96	898.
" 86	900.4	" 97	899.5
" 87	900.4	" 98	899.5
" 88	899.5	" 99	899.5
" 89	900.4	" 100	899.5
" 90	899.9	" 101	899.5
" 91	899.5	" 102	899.5
" 92	898.6	" 103	899.5

Standard Gold Ingots
Melt No 1. 900.
" 2. 900.

Verified and Approved by.
David Bradford
Supt.

Very Respectfully
Edm: Forstall
Treas. Br. Mint

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Mint N. S.
May 23, 1839.

Sir,

I sent, by yesterday's mail, two pairs of Jr dime dies, & will send to morrow 2 pairs of dimes dies, for the Br. Mint at New Orleans, which I pray you to forward under your frank as heretofore.

R. M. P.
Dr

To
Hon. Levi Woodbury
Sec. of Treas'y

RG104 Entry 11

Mint of the United States.
May 23d, 1839.

Sir,

I received yesterday, from the Secretary of the Treasury, a letter of which the copy is subjoined. It transmitted a copy of your letter recommending the removal of Mess. Tyler and Maxwell.

Under the instructions of the Secretary, I have written to the District Attorney at New Orleans, to engage him in the investigation ordered to be made, and I beg that every facility may be afforded to him in conducting this delicate and important business.

P.S. – 2 hy. & dime dies were sent yesterday, and 2 hy. dime dies will be sent tomorrow, to the Sec. of Treasy, to be forwarded under his frank to Mr. P. H. L. . . . Your Mint.

D. . . . .

To/

David Bradford Esq.
Supt. B. Mint.
New Orleans.

[Copy Secretary's letter of May 20.]

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Mint of the United States.
May 23d, 1889.

Sir,

~~Any~~ Unhappy differences have existed, for some time, between the officers of the Branch Mint at New Orleans, and have at length reached such a point as to ~~require the aid~~ affect the business of the Mint, and to require the interference of the Government.

The principal parties seem to be ~~the~~ Superintendent and Assayer on the one side, and the Coiner & Melter & Refiner on the other. I send to you, inclosed, copies of parts of my correspondence, which will explain to you some of the subjects of difference; but a full and satisfactory investigation of the matter can be made only on the spot.

From the letter of the Secretary of the Treasury, of the 20 the inst., you will see that I am instructed to refer this investigation to you, and to engage you, officially, to inquire fully into the qualifications and efficiency of the present officers of the establishment, and of those

RG104 Entry 11

recommended to second the Melter & Refiner and Coiner in the event of their removal, and to report to me fully as to the character of the officers implicated, and the state of the Branch Mint generally, and its difficulties."

In making this investigation, I think it may desirable that the affair ~~of the~~ between the Melter and the Weigher should be closely inquired into, as well as the suspicious conduct of the door-keeper while employed in counting coins. It is also important that the accounts should be examined, as it is asserted by Mr. Maxwell that he has not had a satisfactory settlement.

Your principal ~~enclosed~~ information will, of course, be derived from the officers themselves; but I will take the liberty of referring you also to Lyne S. Martin Gordon, who was the Commissioner for the erection of the Mint buildings, takes great interest in its affairs, and enjoys the confidence of the Government.

~~The~~ You will see the importance of obtaining and communicating the desired information as early as possible.

I am, Sir, with great respect,
Your faithful Servant,
R. M. Patterson,
Director

To/
Thomas Slidell, Esq.
U. S. District Attorney,
New Orleans.

Enclosing Copies of the following letters:
Mine to David Bradford, May 7, 1839.
" " Do Do " " 9. " , with copy of Mr. Dimitry's note to Mr. Maxwell.
Mine to David Bradford, May 16, 1839, respecting Mr. Tyler's complaint against the door-keeper.
Mr. Bradford's to Sec. of Treas'y, May 13. '39.
and ~~the original~~ of the letter of the Sec. of Treas'y to me, said 22d, transmitting Mr. Bradford's.

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Mint U. S.
May 23d, 1839.

Sir,

In compliance with the instructions given in your letter of the 20th inst., I have written to the U. S. District Attorney at New Orleans, to engage him to inquire fully into the qualifications and efficiency of the present officers of the Branch Mint, and to direct him to procure and communicate the information required to enable the Department to come to a proper decision as to the difficulties which have occurred in the Branch Mint, — as to the qualifications and efficiency of its present officers, — and of the individuals recommended to succeed them when removal is urged by the Superintendent. I have sent to the District Attorney copies of such parts of my correspondence as seemed to me to have an important bearing upon the matters submitted to his inquiry. I am happy that you have added the investigation, and hope that it may lead to such measures as shall establish peace and efficiency in the New Orleans Mint.

R. M. P.

The Hon. Levi Woodbury,
Sec. of Treasury.

Washington. D.C
May 25. 1839

Sir

In reply to your letter of the 18th instant, received this morning I have to remark that the holders of the Mint certificates, if the Branch cannot have the deposits coined within the period allowed by law, must necessarily wait until it can be done, or they may be allowed to withdraw the bullion or coin deposited by them respectively.

A communication has been addressed by the department to the Director of the Mint at Philadelphia on the subject of the embarrassing delays at your Branch, and it is in hopes that, both at New Orleans and Philadelphia, prompt measures will be taken to remedy them, as far as practicable in future.

It is not to be expected, however, that the Branch can execute more than a reasonable amount of coinage within a given time, and as the deposit, with it, of more money by the department will not in any degree increase its power or capacity to coin, no further sum can be placed at the disposal of the Branch until advices are received from Philadelphia in respect to the measure as there is already the large sum of $130,000 deposited there. Hereafter when bullion is presented for coinage no more must be received by the Mint than can probably be coined within the time prescribed unless the depositors are willing to await their turn, after being notified that they must not expect punctuality.

This has been alleged to be the course occasionally at even the Mint in Philadelphia.

David Bradford Esq
Supt. Br. Mint
N. Orleans.

I am very respectfully
Your obt Servt
Sec. of the Treasury.

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Mint of the United States,
May 25. 1839

Sir,

Your communications of the 16th & 17th inst., were received by me yesterday and to-day. Their contents are full of interest in connexion with the unhappy differences now existing at your Mint. You have seen, however, from my letter of the 23d, that the Secretary of the Treasury has ordered the whole of this matter to be submitted to investigation by the Dist. Attorney of New Orleans. The report of this officer will, no doubt, lead to such measures, on the part of the Government, as will bring to an end the controversies which are now distracting & crippling your institution.

You will oblige me by communicating the contents of this letter, & mine of the 23d, to Mr. Tyler, Dr. Hoby, & Mr. Maxwell.

R. M. P.

David Bradford, Esq
Supt U.S. Mint
New Orleans.

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Branch Mint N. Orleans
May 25th 1859

Doctor R. M. Patterson
Director of the US Mint.

Sir,

That the statements I have made in regard to the state of my accounts with the Treasurer of the N. O. mint may be confirmed, and that an Order given by our Superintendent, which must cause me great inconvenience and place me at the mercy of the Treasurer's clerks, may be countermanded; I send you copies of letters that have passed between the Treasurer & myself: —

To Edmund Forstall Treas. &c

I would enquire why the warrants for the transfer of bullion from the Treasurer to the M. & Refiner & from the M. & Refiner to the Treasurer have not been made out since last Augt. And request that a statement of the whole acct. of S. Bullion delivered to me, specifying dates &c of the transfer be handed me. Also whether I have the privilege of refering to the weigh-books of bullion for information in my business. I would most respectfully request that you give me an answer as soon as convenient in writing

Yours Obt Svt &c
J. Maxwell M. & Refiner.

The following is the reply,

The warrants about which you have asked for information in your communication to me of the 17th inst are ready for your signature. The statements of S. bullion has been

RG104 Entry 11

also prepared according to your request.

In reply to your enquiry whether you have the privilege of referring to the weigh books of bullion for information in your business, I would observe to you that the greatest inconvenience has been occasioned by your taking the books of my Office to your own Office, without informing my clerks or consulting me - that you have been in the habit of locking all your doors, so that when the books were wanted to weigh deposites & for other purposes, they were not to be had, in consequence of which, I am directed by the superintendent to say that you will be furnished always with copies of the assayer's reports to file in your Office, & that whatever information you ask in writing, shall be given in writing, but that you can have no access to the weigh-books of bullion in my Office -

(Signed) E Forstall Treasurer.

Now in reference to my having taken the books of the Treasurer into my Office - it is untrue - for I cannot call to mind one single instance of the kind, - but it was necessary for the Superintendent in carrying out his plans to have some plea for issuing the above order however unreasonable - & it is no difficult thing to fabricate any thing that will answer the purpose here. - I replied to the above & received the following -

Sir

In your letter of yesterday's date you state that I must have been misinformed as to the fact of your having taken books out of my office - occasioning great inconvenience in my Office & injury to the public service. On this ground I have to differ with you. Mr Duel, Mr Lasere, Dr Hart & Mr Bradford as well as myself are assured of the fact. Again you observe that the a/c I have rendered you of the delivery of bullion is not such as you requested. I know not sir, what right you have to call for an a/c of bullion delivered to you since the opening of the mint. It has been rendered to you from the date of your last settlement, to which you have signed your name. Beyond that period, you have, in my opinion, no right to call on me for an a/c. You say that the a/c I have furnished you, does not accord with yours: will you do me the favour to furnish me with a copy of your a/c, so that I may compare the items & ascertain where the error is - The a/c of bullion is at your ~~request~~ desire made up to the present date. signed E Forstall Tr

You are aware that it is necessary for me to have access to the weigh-books and to copy from the original assayer's reports, to make it safe for me to transact business with the Treasurer, & unless I am supported by you in the discharge of my official duties & am made safe in the performance of those duties, I may as well resign at once. As to the assayers reports I had supposed you settled that some time ago. I shall look anxiously for an answer to this letter, that I may order my affairs accordingly.

Very respectfully,
Your Obt & humble Servt.
James Macoell
Mint Office

RG104 Entry 11

85.

Capt. Coolong, Supt. of the water works is well acquainted with Denicity & knows him to be an unprincipled man – he would give you his character if you request it – Capt Coolong is from Philad^a., but if you should not be acquainted with him – Dr Rogers Supt of the Gas-works will certify to

Express mail

Doctor R. M. Patterson
Director of the US Mint
Philad^a.
Pa.

his respectability — Denicity has sued me, and I suppose will give me a good deal of trouble and no little expense –

Respectfully J. M.

RG104 Entry 11

New Orleans May 25th 1837

Dear Sir

I have both good news and bad news to communicate, but let me begin with the bad and wind up with the good — I resumed the coining of half dolls last week, but to my great mortification and disappointment I soon discovered that not only was the socket cracked but to look out through, but that the head of the triangle seemed to be breaking in two — I immediately had the triangle taken out with the intention of making a temporary repair, by putting a strong iron band around the top of it — On examination however, I found that the bolt and socket had been cutting and tearing each other at a most surprising rate; so that the face of the bolt of the yoke had commenced off as though it were of coarse yellow cotton; and the socket which appears to be nothing but case-hardened iron, much torn and cut away — My course therefore was to put on the band, as before mentioned, and to order a new bolt and socket — I believe that the Press was kept faithfully oiled, and that no blame attaches to the man who worked it — I shall have no time, in getting the Press to work again —

With regard to the small Press, she has acquitted herself most nobly — For the last ten or twelve days of her running she has "walked over the course" with 11,000 pieces each day and on the day before yesterday, she won the "sweep stakes" of 66,000 pieces — Time 11 hours and 2 minutes — Every person attended her, and it was found that the man could feed both heavily and the Press at the same time

I had a conversation yesterday with Mr. Charles Gordon on the subject of the relative benefits, of pushing as we have done the coining of small pieces, or, of leaving them for the sake of getting

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forward with the largest ones — and considering that the demand for such as we are prepared for the operation of, has been up to the present time fully equal to our ability to supply them, and that by pursuing steadily a single branch we could arrive more speedily at a perfection which may be at once adopted into all the others) as the following results will show, Mr Gordon is decidedly of the opinion, that I have pursued the wisest course — He says that the half dollars and even the dimes, are far more desirable to the Banks for handling up than the smaller pieces are, besides which a great proportion of our coinage has been put immediately into circulation, by being taken by individuals in small amounts into all parts of this section of the country — There was produced in January the month of January 74,000 pieces, in Feb. 128,000, and in March 370,000, in April 600,000 including 100,000 half dollars and in the present more than 600,000 pieces in Dimes and half dimes, besides 400,000 times ~~dimes~~ last year — In all about 2,000,000 of pieces, nearly all of which have already been put in circulation

I am glad to hear of the very satisfactory performance of your new steam engine; but I was prepared to expect as much from what I saw when I was there — We already begin to feel the want of a similar one, as it is impossible to make our Presses perform as much in a day by the engine that drives the other machinery as by one devoted to that work exclusively — I think that the difference may be estimated at from 10 to 20 per cent

Little Patterson, has become a great favourite here, he goes freely, and seems very clever, but he find the climate very severe upon him, producing frequent fits of sickness — The thermometer enter his range for several days, from 86° to 88° in my chamber and the thermometer from 80 to a Million — Neville is sickish —

The most of our men who brought out the Presses & families have sent, or are about to send them back to the Office — My health is very good — Mrs Pfeiffer & family generally are in the same — I should be glad to hear something of what is going on, what changes &c. in your Mint — Please to present my sincere regards to the Officers there and

I remain
Truly and sincerely
Yours &c
Robert Taylor

To
Dr R. M. Patterson
Director of the Mint &c &c

U S B Mint New Orleans
May 25th 1839

Sir

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your two letters of the 16th inst. I find the dies, the receipt of which I had not at the time acknowledged have been received at this Branch Mint, and in future I shall not fail in letting you know by return mail the arrival or non arrival of any you may send to this Branch Mint. About the time I had very sore eyes and delayed after commencing several letters to you. In my letter of the 29th of March last I requested your directions as to the disposition of the dies of last year and of those which become worn out which I will be thankful to receive.

Mr. Tyler pronounced the Assayers balance defective last June and promised to repair and adjust it, but has never yet found time to attend to it. It was in consequence of this and believing that he never would find time to do it, and the representation of the Assayer of his little confidence in its accuracy and the recent report of the Melter and Refiner of there being more gold in his hands than had been reported by the Assayer, that I was induced to ask for another balance.

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The reason of my writing to you on the subject of the account of the Contractors for extra work on the altered plan of, was that I knew not whether it was a just account or not, and I had an imperfect recollection of seeing on the drawings, which I have only seen once, the approbation of the Secretary of the Treasury to the proposed alterations with a proviso that no additional charge to that set forth in the Contract should be incurred by the United States for the same. When I first saw the drawings of this Edifice (which was in the first week in January last) I found two Vaults were designed for the Treasurer, one for bullion and one for Coins. The first had been appropriated to the use of the Melter and Refiner, with some reason, in consequence of the one designed for him having been taken down to make room for the Coining operations owing to the misplacement of the Engine. The other the Coiner had taken, very improperly, as he had four or five vaults besides, leaving the Treasurer only a most insignificant and inadequate closet measuring six feet square and seven feet high for his purposes of keeping bullion and Coins. I instantly said to Mr. Gordon that I would speed an order to the Coiner to restore the Treasurer the vault designed for him in which to keep Coins. Mr. Gordon requested me to let things remain as they were till it would be more convenient to make the restorations and alterations that might be found requisite. I accede to his wishes. I was much pained and am so still at this arrogant usurpations conduct of the Coiner. It was this deviation from the original design to which I had reference in my letter of the 8th inst.

I remain Your Faithful Servant

David Bradford

Supt.

To Dr. R. M. Patterson, Director, Mint, Phila.

RG104 Entry 11

From/

James Maxwell, Esq.,
M. & R. Br. Mint.
New Orleans.

Dated May 25.
rec'd June 3. } 1839.

RG104 Entry 11

Mint of the U. S.
May 25. 1839.

Dear Sir,

I delivered to you

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U. S. B. Mint New Orleans
May 26th 1839

Sir,

I received your letter of the 16th inst, day before yesterday, in which you mention that you had received a letter from Mr. Tyler accusing one of the men employed by me in this Branch Mint of pulverizing coins. It did receive my particular attention on the first intimation of it to me. You are under the impression that the accusation is supported by the strongest circumstantial evidence. Exparte testimony often appears decisive of the character and fate of an individual. In every instance in which Messrs. Tyler and Maxwell have brought charges against Officers in this Branch Mint, or individuals whom I have appointed or employed, I have been under the necessity of differing with them. In the case of the individual to whom you allude I am as firmly convinced of his innocence as Mr. Tyler can possibly be of his guilt. As you request me to state the reasons that induce me to allow the individual to remain in this Branch Mint, I fell it my duty promptly to communicate them to you fully reserving your right to demand any information on any subject connected with this Branch Mint that it is in my power to give.

I appointed Mr. S. C. Brimond, Porter, in this Branch Mint, from a full conviction that he was well qualified for the Office. Mr. Tyler took a dislike to him at once, as he has done to every Southern man. He soon informed me that a bricklayer named Riley could satisfy me he was an improper character to be in the Establishment. I found from Riley that he knew nothing himself

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against Brimond, as he referred to others and particularly the Captain of the Steamer Commerce. This gentleman, Capt. Mayott, called on me, and stated that he had long known Brimond, had had him as second Clerk on his Boat, had entrusted him with the collection of freight Bills in the City and elsewhere to the amount of upwards of twenty thousand dollars, had always found him faithful and diligent and had the utmost Confidence in him. This Capt. Mayott is now inspector of Steam Boats under appointment of the Dist. Ct. of the U.S. in this City, and I find is by all his acquaintance considered a gentleman of the highest Character. Mr. Hepburn, the principal broker in this City told me he had known Brimond in Tampico where he was in a responsible situation entrusted with large sums of money and that his character was unimpeachable.

It is true that in Counting the small coins delivered by Mr. Tyler to the Treasurer he (Brimond) has often reported a deficiency — but others in the Treasurers department have made the same report and so have the Banks when the small coins have been sent to them without having been Counted in the Treasurers Office. There is at least as much reason to suppose that errors in counting have been Committed in the Coiners department as in the Treasurers and indeed I have had ample proof that Mr. Tyler is not infallible. Deficiencies in weight and quantity of coins that he has delivered have more than once occurred.

I have Mr. Brimonds Bond for $2000. Mr. Lubarre a wealthy lawyer of this City and of the highest respectability is his Security, and as they were fellow Collegians, he has offered to be his Security in the purchase of property for $20.000.

But I feel it my duty to go further and to be perfectly frank and explicit.

I have it from undoubted authority that two or three months ago Messrs. Tyler and Maxwell matured to get out of office, every Southerner, Creole and could speak French and have their places sup Philadelphia when they said they would be able to Mint as they pleased. The Assayer was warned of the workings upwards of a year ago that every entrap him would be made and that he must be I received a letter from you (that of 21st. Feby 1838 June 20. 1837) referring me to Mr. Maxwell for the Treasurers Office — Mr. Duval the Clerk, at my to him, but could get none. Mr. Forstall and myself Assayer to assist Mr. Duval as far as he could. To defe it was concerted by Messrs. Tyler & Maxwell that Mr. give the Assayer sufficient employment in assaying and pieces of silver to keep him out of the Treasurers Office was steadily followed up. The reports of the Coiner to which I have already forwarded to you, condemn al sent here from Philadelphia and until recently I was believed his statements and attributed all the delay in Coinage to the defective state of the machinery and Coining Presses. I am however now convinced of two successive forgeries, Mr. Brown and Mr. valuable machinists in have had in this Branch Mint cause of delay is not to be found in the defective

RG104 Entry 11

[illegible] others and particularly the
[illegible] this gentleman, Capt. Mayott
[illegible] had long known Brenond, had
[illegible] had retracted him with the
[illegible] and elsewhere to the amount
[illegible] had always found him faithful
[illegible] confidence in him. The Capt. Mayott
[illegible] appointment of the Dist. Ct. of the U.S.
[illegible] acquaintance considered a
[illegible]ter. Mr. Hepburn, the principal
[illegible] known Brenond in Tampico
[illegible]ion entrusted with large
[illegible] character was unimpeachable.
[illegible]ing the small coins delivered
[illegible] often reported a deficiency—
[illegible]ent have made the same
[illegible] how the small coins have
[illegible] been counted in the Treasurers
[illegible] to suppose that errors in
[illegible] the Coinage department as
[illegible]ed ample proof that Mr. Taylor
[illegible]nd quantity of coins that he
[illegible]ered.
[illegible]ends Bond for $2000. Mr.
[illegible] and of the highest respectability
[illegible] Colleagues, he has offered to
[illegible]roperty for $20.000.

But I feel it my duty to go further into this subject and to be perfectly frank and explicit.

I have it from undoubted authority that upwards of twelve months ago Messrs. Tyler and Maxwell matured their plans to get out of office, every Southerner, Creole and every one who could speak French and have their places supplied from Philadelphia when they said they would be able to manage the Mint as they pleased. The Assayer was warned by several of the workmen upwards of a year ago that every effort to entrap him would be made and that he must be on his guard. I received a letter from you (that of 28th. Feby 1838 — and also June 20. 1837) referring me to Mr. Maxwell for information in the Treasurers Office — Mr. Durel the Clerk, at my instance, applied to him, but could get none. Mr. Forstall and myself then requested the Assayer to assist Mr. Durel as far as he could. To defeat this object, it was concerted by Messrs. T. & M. that Mr. Taylor should give the Assayer sufficient employment in assaying blanchets and pieces of silver to keep him out of the Treasurers Office. This plan was steadily followed up. The reports of the Coiner to me, extracts from which I have already forwarded to you, condemn all the machinery sent here from Philadelphia and until recently I was induced to believe his statements and attributed all the delay and deficiency in Coinage to the defective state of the machinery and especially the Coining Presses. I am however now convinced from the statements of two successive foremen, Mr. Brown and M. P. Dennay, the most valuable machinists we have had in this Branch Mint, that the true cause of delay is not to be found in the defectiveness of the

RG104 Entry 11

Treasury Department
May 26. 1839.

Sir.

I transmit enclosed, a copy of a letter, received this morning, from the Superintendent of the Branch Mint at N. Orleans and of myself, to which I beg to call your attention - I shall thank you for any suggestions on the subject, which you may think proper to offer.

Referring to the Bond given by the Treasurer of the Branch at N. Orleans I find, that it is only for the sum of $10.000. Dolls - Do you not think it would be well to require a bond in a larger sum - as the deposit there is so large? [redacted],

I received a box of dies for N. Orleans by the Mail of yesterday - they will be forwarded to day, and

RG104 Entry 11

the others shall be sent as soon as received.

I remain very Respy
Wm Chear. Jr

Sec. of the Treas.

Dr. R. M. Patterson
Director of the Mint
Philadelphia

Beautiful
3

RG104 Entry 11

as received.

I remain very Respy
Wm Allen &c

Sec. of the Treas.

Philadelphia

Beautiful

33

RG104 Entry 11

Mint of the United States.
May 27th, 1839.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 25th, with a copy of the application of the Superintendent of the New Orleans Mint for an additional public deposite of $40,000, and of your reply to this application.

The New Orleans Mint has acted imprudently in confining its coinage so exclusively to dimes and half dimes. The number of pieces struck, and consequently of labor done, at present, is quite respectable, but the value coined is too small to keep up with the deposits. I have repeatedly urged ~~the~~ a larger coinage of half dollars, and this must be done. Very numerous deposites are made of paltry amounts, to be coined

RG104 Entry 11

into dimes and half dimes, and I understand the action to be that these coins pass currently at New Orleans for eighths and sixteenths of a dollar.

It is my opinion that, at least in the present state of the New Orleans Mint, no more coins should be transferred to it from this Mint. By striking half-dollars, they will find $40,000 a trifling sum to coin.

You ask if I do not think the bond of the Treasurer of the New Orleans Mint should be increased, as the deposite with him is so large. I would state in reply, first, that, as our Mint is an organized, a fraud to any considerable amount is almost impossible, without a collusion among the officers, and, secondly, that the ~~amount of the~~ sum of $10,000, for which the Treasurer of the New Orleans Mint is bound, is the same as that ~~amount by~~ established by law for the security of the Treasurer of this Mint, when the deposites are vastly larger.

Our operations have, however, an opening so large a scale, that you cannot suppose a reduction of our deposits without interrupting ~~infinitely~~ the system of prompt payments now so satisfactorily established. The deposites, this month, of gold alone amount to more than $380,000.

I send herewith a copy of a letter received, this morning, from Mr. B. Pond. The condition of things, at the New Orleans Mint, is mortifying in the extreme. I am glad that it is put in a course of impartial investigation.

R. M. P. Jr.

To
Hon. Levi Woodbury
Sec. of Treas.

RG104 Entry 11

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our operations here, moreover, are upon so large a scale, that we cannot suffer a reduction of our deposits without interrupting the system of prompt payments, now so satisfactorily established. — The deposites, this month, of gold alone, amount to more than $380,000.

I send herewith a copy of a letter received, this morning, from Mr. Bradford. The condition of things, at the New Orleans Mint, is mortifying indeed. I am glad that it is put in a course of impartial investigation.

R. M. P.

Hon. Levi Woodbury
Sec. of Treas.

RG104 Entry 11

Treasury Department
May 31. 1839.

Sir

I transmit by this mail a box said to contain assay pieces taken from Standard Gold & Silver Ingots in the Branch Mint at N. Orleans, received at the Department this morning from N. Orleans.

I remain very Respy
Your Obedt. Sert
Levi Woodbury
Sec. of the Treas.

Dr. R. M. Patterson -
Director of the Mint Philad.

RG104 Entry 11

Silver Coinage Executed at the Branch Mint at New Orleans during the Month Ending May 31st 1859.

Date of the Coining		Denomination	Number of Pieces	Value in Dolls	Remarks
1859					
May	6	Half Dimes	20.000	1.000	
"	9	do do	60.000	3.000	
"	"	Dimes	55.000	5.500	
"	18	Half Dimes	100.000	5.000	
"	21	do do	60.000	3.000	
"	29	do do	200.000	10.000	
"	"	do do	110.000	5.500	
"	"	Dimes	25.000	2.500	
			[illegible]	[illegible]	

Treasurers Office Mint the 1st 1859

Edm: Forstall
Treas of Pro: Mint.

Silver Deposits Received at the Branch Mint at New Orleans during the Month ending May 31st 1859.

Date of the Coining		Kind of Deposits	Fine Bullion Ounces	Fine Bullion Dolls	Standard Ounces	Standard Dolls	Value Coined Dolls	Value of Bullion Dolls
1859								
May	1	Mexican Dollars	359 65	895	358 20	300 45		
"		do do	86	897	85 71	99 75		
"	2	Silver Cut from Gold	293 70	860	150 11	174 67	148 95	
"	2	Mexican Dollars	181 45	897	180 80	210 48		
"		do do	86 25	896	85 96	99 98		
"	3	do do	862 20	895	857 41	997 71		
"		do do	433 05	895	430 66	501 10		
"		do do	3060 70	894	3037 62	4000 15		
"		do do	112 85	892	111 84	130 14		
"		do do	86 15	897	85 86	99 91		
"		do do	86 55	897	86 06	100 07		
"		Mexicana Dollars	167 55	880	165 65	190 60		
"		Mexican Dollars	86 70	897	86 21	100 36		
"		Mexicana Dollars	410 20	884	402 90	468 82		
"	6	Spanish Dollars	6511 75		6376 55	6978 56		
"		Mexican Dollars	86 15	897	85 86	99 91		
"	7	do do	171 15	892	170 13	197 96		
"		do do	86 60	895	86 12	100 20		
"		do do	1125 45	892	1115 44	1297 96		
"	8	do do	86 95	888	85 79	99 81		
"		do do	87 50	890	86 71	100 89		
"	9	do do	86	897	85 71	99 75		
"		do do	86 15	896	86 46	100 50		
"		English Shillings	98	925	93 50	107 65		
"	10	Mexican Dollars	86 55	896	85 96	100 03		
"		do do	85 10	895	85 52	99 38		
"		Hamb. Dollars	158 15	870	156 16	181 11		
"	13	Mexican Dollars	1732 55	897	1737 17	2009 60		
"		do do	260 55	896	259 19	301 60		
"	14	do do	323 05	892	320 17	372 56		
"	14	Hamb. Dollars	135 70	888	131 17	152 85		
"		Mexican Dollars	625 15	897	625 73	695 86		
"		Mexican Dollars	128 95	895	128 33	149 21		
"		Mexican Dollars	866 91	897	866 03	1005 38		
"		do do	173 15	897	172 57	201 60		
"		do do	173 40	896	172 63	200 87		
"		do do	865 86	895	860 15	1001 71		
"		do do	216	895	214 40	249 90		
"	15	Mexican Dollars	602 05	850	600 30	695 82	491 21	
"		Old Silver	89 70	862	93 55	109 20	105 96	

RG104 Entry 11

Date of Deposits		Kind of Deposit	Gross weight after Melting		Fineness	Standard Weight		Value before Deductions		Value after Deductions	
1859		Amount brought forward	[illegible]	[illegible]		[illegible]	68	22.60	98	[illegible]	[illegible]
May	15	Old Silver	105	50	957	107	75	125	58	125	06
	18	Hand Dollars	1324	70	887	1305	56				
	"	do do	1652	80	884	1623	41	3408	25		
	"	Mexican Bullion	881	70	962	962	05				
	"	Hand Dollars	1827	20	872	1770	35	3179	49	3176	61
	"	do do	4641	50		4501	27	5237	57		
	22	Old Silver	165	00	840	154	00	179	28		
		Hand Dollars	97	65	892	96	78	112	61		
		Mexican & Hand Dolls	1775	20	880	1675	18	1949	74		
	23	Hand Dollars	88	05	898	87	85	102	22		
	"	Mexican Bullion	546	85	817	526	80	613		591	13
	"	Old Silver	254	05	859	242	47	282	04	271	98
		Hand Dollars	333	55	877	325	02	378	18		
	25	do do	86	70	888	85	54	99	53		
	"	Mixed Coins	125	90	892	122	80	142	89		
	"	Old Silver	105	55	901	103	46	120	58		
	"	Hand Dollars	92	35	869	89	17	103	76		
	"	Fine Bullions	306	30	977	332	89	356	78	352	71
	27	Hand Dollars	149	40	880	146	08	169	89		
	"	do do	259		885	254	68	296	55		
	"	do do	980	65	879	957	76	1.114	48		
	28	Mixed Coins	292	15	891	289	22	336	56		
	"	do do	251	05	895	249	65	290	58	289	67
	"	do do	86	10	897	85	81	99	85		
	29	Mexican Coins	634	05	896	631	25	734	52		
	30	Spanish Dollars	93	50	899	93	39	108	65		
	"	Mexican Bullion	76	45	405	34	28	39	85	30	56
		do do	86	75	898	86	55	100	71		
			[illegible]	[illegible]		[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	
			36,183	87		35,508	86	42,151	14		
		Fine Bullion	3,488	25		3,344	29	3,893	71		
		Fine Coins	32,745	62		32,162	57	38,257	45		

Gold Deposites Received at the Branch Mint at New Orleans during the Month ending May 31st 1859

Date of Deposits		Kind of Deposit	Gross Wt after Melting		Fineness	Standard Weight		Value before Deductions		Value after Deductions	
1859											
May	2	French Coins	47	80	897	47	640	886	32		
	"	German Coins	68	60	892	67	990	1264	95		
	8	do do	11	15	895	11	068	205	91		
	9	Georgia Gold	5	60	972	6	048	112	52		
	10	German Coins	5	55	898	5	517	102	64		
	23	do do	19	30	894	19	171	356	66		
	"	Mexican Bars	15	42	403	6	009	111	80		
	"	do do	546	85	003	1	182	23	89		
	"	Church Ornaments	254	05	011	3	056	56	85		
	28	Mexican Bullion	6	22	819	5	660	105	30		
	30	do do	76	45	578	49	097	915	31	911	63
			1054	45		232	658	4150	31	911	63

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Branch of the U States Mint
New Orleans June 1st 1839

Dear Sir

Yours of the 18th ult was duly received and I am sorry to find you considered it your duty to act upon the communication in my letter of the 7th ult —

I had no intention of subjecting myself to greater difficulties than those under which I have laboured almost from the commencement, untill the present time — Had I anticipated such a result, I should at least have been particular to secure the necessary proofs, which may now be difficult to obtain in support of one assertion. The assertion that the Treasurer had certain opinions may have been imprudent, although I had no, and have not now, a particle of doubt on that point — The truth of the matter is, although I have the highest respect for the personal character of the Treasurer, such is his official position in regard to the Superintendent, that I would not expect him willingly, to corroborate any statement tending to cast censure upon that officer.

I beg to say that I have felt deeply the injustice, (to say nothing of the impropriety of such an organization of the Official departments of a Branch of the U.S. Mint), as a Treasurer who appears to me, emphatically the Treasurer of the Superintendent and a Superintendent who seems to me determined as far as he can to subject all the departments (except that of the assayer) to his own immediate dictation — I confess to

RG104 Entry 11

you sir, that I had hoped that the same general views of the Superintendents duties, would have prevailed here as in the Mint at Philadelphia — Since writing the above I have received Mr Slidell's notification to meet him at Mr Bradford's Office to morrow evening at 5 o'clock, to commence the investigation ordered by the Secretary of the Treasury — I am happy that the investigation is to take place, although I am under the impression that Mr Slidell is the personal friend of Mr Bradford, but, as his report is made to you, who are so well acquainted with my qualifications, all I have to regret is that it is not possible at this time to show to Mr Slidell what has been the true state of things here — Though I could never reconcile the Superintendents perseverance in the management of the Treasurers department with just and equitable intentions, especially when taken in connexion with other circumstances, such as the disappearance of coins in counting &c. yet I have thought it possible that many things were intended to entrap me and the Melter & Refiner, so as to bring about our removal in favour of some of Mr Bradford's and Dr Hart's friends — I now think I can clearly trace this motive, and that of obtaining as much information as possible from us, of our operations, indeed so great has been the annoyance and degradation that I have long been anxious for an investigation. It is impossible to convey in a letter, or even to the mind of any person sent to examine into the affairs the vexations delays we have suffered by the unwarrantable interference on the part of the chief Officer in our relations with the Treasurer, to say nothing of the detriment of the same in our own immediate departments — I wrote you on the 28th ult to inform you of the increasing effectiveness, and of the great performance to the small press, of 66,000 pieces in 11 hours and 2 min and of the execution during the month of May of 600,000 pieces! — Ought we not to have had a copy of Mr B's letter to the Secretary of the Treasury?

Very respectfully and truly

Your Obedient Servant

Philip Tyler

To/

Dr R M Patterson

Director of the U States Mint

RG104 Entry 11

Mint U. S.
~~May~~ June 4th 1839.

Sir,

I have duly received your letter of the 25th ult., transmitting copies of the correspondence between yourself and the Treasury, on the subject of your mutual accounts.

You are already aware that the whole matter of the difficulties between the officers of your Mint is upon ~~by~~ under instructions to me from the Secretary of the Treasury, to the District Attorney, Mr. Slidell, before whom I pray that all essential circumstances may be fully and fairly laid. ~~With his report is required~~ ~~Under these circumstances~~ I deem it unnecessary, if not improper, for me to interfere in the disputes between the officers, unless the case should be a great urgency.

R. M. P.

To James Maxwell, Esq.
Metals Refiner & Assayer,
New Orleans.

RG104 Entry 11

U S B Mint New Orleans
June 4th 1839

Sir,

I have the honor to enclose herewith an account of Bullion deposited in this B. Mint during the last Month and of Coinage executed during the same time viz: —

Gold Bullion of the Value of	$ 4. 150. 13
Silver " " " " "	42. 151. 16
	46. 301. 29
Coinage — — — —	35. 500. 00

in Conformity with your instructions of the 14th of Feby 1838, and the 13th October last, which I have found since my last Report.

Very Respectfully
Your Faithful Servant
David Bradford
Supt.

To Dr R M Patterson
Director of the Mint
Philad.

RG104 Entry 11

RG104 Entry 11

Mint U S
June ~~Day~~ 4th, 1829.

Sir,

The box from the New Orleans Mint, containing assay-pieces, and forwarded by you on the 31st ult., has come safely to hand.

I have numerous communications from the officers of that Mint, on the subject of the existing difficulties, but as the matter is submitted to the investigation of Mr. Slidell, I do not deem it necessary to trouble you further, with this matter, at present.

At the request of Mr. Bradford, I sent a gentleman from this place to act as Treasurer's Clerk, and have charge of the Treasurer's vaults, and of the mint-room. I thought myself fortunate in being able to engage the services of a Mr. Stafford, a man of excellent character, and an expert accountant. He was detained, for some time, at ~~the~~ the Mint here, and instructed in the state system of our operations as connected, not

RG104 Entry 11

only with the place he was to fill, but with the Treasury department generally. Mr. Spofford was at first well received at the New Orleans Mint, but adverts that the superintendent soon showed marked jealousy with regard to him, and, finally, he ordered that all the coins should be taken from his vault, and put under the charge of another clerk. This act gave rise to suspicions in the mind of Mr. Spofford, (I am possibly his account of the matter,) and he ~~[illegible]~~ ~~the Treasury of~~ appealed to the Treasury. Indeed his conduct, on the occasion, was no doubt offensive to the superintendent, and being considered by him as an exhibition of "insufferable insubordination," Mr. Spofford was dismissed from his situation.

Mr. Spofford has returned to Philadelphia, and ~~[illegible]~~ I had a personal interview with him yesterday. He does not vacillate to express his conviction that the superintendent and his clerks are not worthy of trust, and that the cash ~~[illegible]~~ balance account of the Mint cannot bear investigation. It must be observed, however, that he has been aggrieved, and he has not certainly pointed to me any evidence to confirm his suspicions. As to the Treasurer, he says he is an honest man, but a mere cypher in his office, entirely unacquainted with the whole business intrusted to him. If this be so, it is a grievous evil. The treasurer has not only a great trust committed directly to himself, but he is the check officer for all the business practices of the Mint. It is absolutely dangerous that such a station ~~[illegible]~~ should be made or he is called upon to fill a sinecure. I ~~shall~~ hope that the capabilities of this officer will be as closely inquired into by the District Attorney.

I subjoin a copy of a certificate given to Mr. Spofford, by the Treasurer. It is a singular document to be ~~given~~ given to a gentleman dis-

milled, as Mr. Stafford was, from the Treasury's own department.

R. M. P.

To/ Hon Levi Woodbury
Sec. of Treas.

[Copy Mr. Forstall's certificate given to Mr. Stafford ~~at~~ Apr. 18th.]

RG104 Entry 11

Mint U. S.
June 5th, 1839.

Dear Sir,

I have just received your letter of the 25th ult., and join both your regrets and your gratulations as to the two predecessors. I cannot join Gen. Gordon and yourself as to the propriety of having confined your coinage so much to dimes and half-dimes. One of the necessary consequences is quite to reduce the amount of your coinage, and thus to give grounds to ~~you~~ loud complaints against your Mint. I have had much correspondence on the subject of your uncoined balance, of the delays in ~~delivering~~ paying depositors, and of the great cost of your work in proportion to the value produced. It is vain to speak of the number of pieces coined, — you can always, must by a statement of the number of dollars worth coined. I therefore would advise that the your attention should be turned without delay, to as large a coinage

RG104 Entry 11

as possible of half dollars. I give this advice, hence, on the supposition that this course will meet the views of your superintending officer.

You are aware that ~~the~~ an investigation of the difficulties between the officers of your district has been ordered, and is committed to the District Attorney, Mr. Slidell. I wish the whole truth to be laid before him.

Very sincerely and respectfully yours &c.

R. M. P.

To/
Rufus Tyler Esq.
Crim. Branch Mint
New Orleans.

RG104 Entry 11

A.

N. B. – The above assays differ considerably, as you will observe, from those of Dr. Hart; – our results being, in a mean, 1.14 thousandths below yours, and 1.77 below the legal standard. No. 97 alone is beyond the limit permitted by law, but the uniform practice of this Mint will require the rejection also of Nos. 88 & 89. As No. 97 differs 3 thousandths from Dr. Hart's report, it may be proper to mention that our assay was made a second time and with the same result as at first.

(Signed) R. M. Patterson

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Number.	N. Orleans Assay.	Philadelphia Assay	Difference	Variation from Standard
82	898.6	898.	−0.6	−2.0
83	898.1	897.	−1.1	−3.
84	900	899.5	−0.5	−0.5
85	899.5	899.5	0.	−0.5
86	900.4	898.5	−1.9	−1.5
87	900.4	899.	−1.4	−1.
88	899.5	899.	−0.5	−1.
89	900.4	897.5	−2.9	−2.5
90	899.9	898.5	−1.4	−1.5
91	899.5	898.	−1.5	−2.
92	898.6	898.	−0.6	−2.
93	899.5	898	−1.5	−2.
94	898.6	900.	+1.4	0.
95	898.6	898.	−0.6	−2.
96	898.	898.	0.	−2.
97	899.5	896.5	−3.	−3.5
98	899.5	898.	−1.5	−2.
99	899.5	898.	−1.5	−2.
100	899.5	898.	−1.5	−2.
101	899.5	898.	−1.5	−2.
102	899.5	898.	−1.5	−2.
103	899.5	898.	−1.5	−2.
		Means	−1.14	−1.77
1	900.	901	+1.	+1.
2	900.	900.25	+0.25	+0.25

Silver Page to.

Gold Page to

RG104 Entry 11

RG104 Entry 11

Mint of the U. S.
June 5. 1839.

Sir,

I send you a bill of lading for Copper trays, shipped for your Br. Mint on the 3d.

Below you have the results of Mr. Eckfeldt & Mr. DuBois's Assays of the slips received from you, through the Secretary of the Treasury, on the 3d inst.

Silver	No. 82	898.	Silver	No. 93	898.
"	83	897.	"	94	900.
"	84	899.5	"	95	898.
"	85	899.5	"	96	898.
"	86	898.5	"	97	896.5
"	87	899.	"	98	898.
"	88	899.	"	99	898.
"	89	897.5	"	100	898.
"	90	898.5	"	101	898.
"	91	898.	"	102	898.
"	92	898.	"	103	898.

Gold, No. 1 – 900.
" 2 900.25

Very respy &c
R. M. S.

N. B. &c the paper enclosed – A.

David Bradford, Esq.,
Capt. Br. Mint,
New Orleans.

RG104 Entry 11

(Private)

New Orleans June 8th 1839

Dear Sir

On Monday evening we attended the call of the Attorney charged with the investigation of the affairs of this Branch of the Mint.

On hearing the documents read, a flood of light burst upon the scene developing all the secret springs and motives for the mysterious conduct of our adversaries, which has long oppressed us and embarrassed our operations

Permit me to thank you sincerely for the evident marks of friendship, and for the perfectly fair and impartial course evinced in conducting the correspondence in the whole of this ~~important~~ unhappy affair — I cannot fear for the result when the secretary of the Treasury pursues so honorable and impartial a course

Most respectfully and truly

Your obedient Servant

Rufus Tyler

To/

Dr R M Patterson

Director of the Pa States Mint

P.S. Our Fine and fe Dime dies are nearly all used, I hope some will arrive in time to enable me to continue the work. The fe dollar press is nearly ready to start again R.T.

RG104 Entry 11

Mint of the United States.
June 11th, 1839.

Sir,

Your letter of the 18th ult., enclosing a ~~letter~~ communication from the Superintendent of the New Orleans Mint, and ~~the~~ an account for extra work done in the building for that Mint, was duly received, ~~and I have given to it all the~~ but I was not able to answer it for want of the necessary information, and even now my reply must be a very imperfect one.

~~When~~ Soon after the I ~~came into the Mint, the plans for the New Orleans~~ entered upon my present office, the plans ~~of~~ for the Branch Mint buildings, were submitted to a careful examination, and many defects were found in them which it was absolutely necessary to correct. I ~~found~~ presume, however, that the buildings, as planned and contracted for, were sufficiently large to afford dwellings for the Superintendent, and,

at New Orleans, for the Crime period
Matter also. This object I thought
of great importance, and I still
think so. With the principal officers
residing in the ~~Mint~~ building, the
Mint is more secure, and the ~~build~~
business more conveniently and
therefore more effectually attended
to. I accordingly suggested the
necessary changes, and the plans
were submitted to you. That for the
New Orleans Mint received your approbation on the 28th of December 1835.
The principal change proposed was
in the Eastern Wing, which, at that
time, had not been commenced.
In the original plan, this was to
be fitted up with groin~~x~~ arches,
and with furnaces, all of which
were very expensive. In the altered
plans, these were to be all dispensed with, and the wing to be
fitted up as a ~~comm~~ more residence for the Superintendent. The
plans were exhibited and explained
here to Gen Martin Gordon, the
commissioner for the erection of the
Mint, and we believed our views to
be perfectly understood and approved
by him. They were such as would
evidently have diminished the cost
of the building; I ~~was~~ therefore
~~have~~ utterly astonished at finding
a bill of extra charges, for these alterations from the original plan, amounting to more than $18,000. I have to-
day, for the first time, an explanation of this extraordinary circumstance.
I am informed, by a gentleman from
New Orleans, that the East Wing was
executed according to ~~both~~ the plans.
That it was first fitted up according to
the rejected design, — with groin arches, with furnaces, &c., and, then,
after Mr. Bradford came to New
Orleans, altered into a dwelling house.
This was a most strange and extravagant course, and may well account
for ~~the~~ a part, at least, of the
heavy charges now brought against
the New Orleans Mint. ~~with~~ to
What the government ~~thought~~ do, under these circumstances, it is
difficult to suggest; but it ~~seems~~

RG104 Entry 11

to me that there is now no course left but submission to the charges made. This business was entirely entrusted to Gen. Gordon, and he has approved the account rendered. If the government has any remedy, it can only be against Gen. Gordon, and he can only be accused of having misunderstood his instructions, since his high character puts any other explanation out of the question.

It is, I presume, impossible to pay this bill out of the funds already appropriated for the New Orleans Mint building; and, in this case, it will be necessary to apply to Congress for a new appropriation for the express purpose.

R. M. T.

Hon. Levi Woodbury,
Sec. of Treasury.

RG104 Entry 11

RG104 Entry 11

U.S.B. Mint New Orleans
June 10th 1839.

Sir,

In conformity with your letter of the 4th inst. which was received yesterday, I have the honor to report that I have attended and witnessed the thorough defacement of the following dies, viz:

Two pairs of dime dies;
Two pairs of half-dime dies;
Two pairs of quarter dollar dies;
Two half-dollar dies, being heads; all for the year eighteen hundred and thirty eight, and One Cent die, for the year Eighteen hundred and thirty six; amounting to three pairs of dies and three dies, being heads; making fifteen dies in all in number.

Mr. Tyler, in a letter to me of this date, says, "There are unused 2 Tail Dies of the ½ Dollar set, which (not having the date) appear to be the same as those sent of the present year and therefore I presume you do not intend to include them with the dies of last year that are to be destroyed — I have likewise a head die for cents (unintentionally brought out in the press that was tried in the Philadelphia Mint) which may be destroyed at the same time". Accordingly the two unused tail dies were not defaced and the cent die was as above reported.

Your Faithful Servant
David Bradford
Supt.

To
Dr. R. M. Patterson
Director, Mint, Philad.a

U S B Mint New Orleans
June 14th 1839

Sir

Your very acceptable letter of the 4th inst was received by me on the 12th inst. Herewith enclosed you will receive my report of the defacement of the old dies.

I am highly gratified that you concur with me in opinion on allowing Mr Spofford his travelling expenses and particularly obliged to you for paying him so promptly.

The investigation before Mr Sidell U.S. Dist Atty, who has associated with him Mr Gordon, is progressing and I shall, I assure you, Sir, as far as depends on me, submit the whole matter "fully and frankly" to him.

Very Respectfully
Your faithful Servant
David Bradford
Supt

To Dr R M Patterson
Director
Mint
Philad.a

RG104 Entry 11

RG104 Entry 11

W. S. B. Mint New Orleans
June 15th 1839.

Sir,

Your letter of the 5th inst. informing me of the result of the re-apay, 1st of the Standard Silver ingots of this Branch Mint made from the melts from No. 82 to No. 103, and, also, 2nd of the Gold ingots, made from the melts No. 1, and No. 2, was received by me yesterday, with the Bill of Lading for a "Bale of rags" and a "Box of Copper".

I have shewn the results of the re-assays to the Apayer of this B. Mint and he deeply regrets the discrepancy that exists between them and his, although from circumstances already explained he has always had reason to apprehend such results. I have to remark that in January last, being informed by the Apayer that he had apayed some of the half dime pieces struck here, and had found them upwards of two millièmes above standard, I suggested to the Melter and Refiner that it would be best to make the ingots for small coins as near (.898) eight hundred and ninety eight, as possible, being confident that in the process of annealing they would be brought up to standard. The Apayer attributes the difference in the apays at the Mint and his, of the pieces mentioned in your last letter of the 5th inst. to the defective state of his apay Balance and his cupels, and requested me to call your attention to his letter to me on the subject of his balances of the 17th of July of the last year, a Copy of

RG104 Entry 11

which I communicated to you on its date. I have several times suggested to the assayer to have his balances adjusted by some of the artists in this City (as Mr. Lyle has not found time to attend to it) but as we have but the one, he has been deterred from apprehension of some accident befalling it; and besides could not spare it not being certain how long he would be without it when it might be indispensably needed. I would therefore again respectfully suggest that this Branch Mint be furnished with a duplicate Balance for the Assay department. The Assayer assures me that in many instances he has assayed the standard ingots twice especially the gold ingots, and that the difference is too great to be accounted for otherwise than the state of his balance and cupels as he took all the care possible in his operations which I have repeatedly witnessed myself. In his letter to me of the 17th July of last year he says "From some cause probably the roughness of the knife edge or some other inaccuracy to me, the balance is often disposed to one side or the other indicating from a half to two milliemes, after the weight has been apparently accurately determined — In this respect it is so capricious that no matter how many trials I may make, I can never feel perfectly secure as to the result." Under these circumstances the Assayer has often mentioned to me that he would have to stop his operations or proceed as he did hoping that, although he incurred the risk of error that yet the general result would be within the legal and even Mint limit. The Assayer has frequently complained to me and indeed I have witnessed the fact, that explosions took place almost every day in the oven, the silver or gold being thrown out with force in numerous small globules soon after the working commenced. He stated that he thought there was muriate of soda in the Cupels, and that it was the cause of the explosions. On analysis he clearly proved to me that his conjecture was right — We have however received a supply of cupels from Paris which has completely obviated the difficulty.

Very Respectfully
Your Humble Servant
David Bradford
Supt.

To
Dr. R. M. Patterson
Director
Mint
Phila.d.

"New Orleans 15th June 1839

"Dear Sir,

"This morning we received two protests for "the nonpayment of your Certificates dated 24th January last

"One for Gold bullion . . .	$6.513.	33.
"One for Silver "	47.	26.
	$6560.	59.

"Your refusal to pay is injurious to our interest & to our credit, and unless you settle for these Certificates at the Commercial Bank in full within three days with the expence of protest, we shall claim $1000 Damages and three per Cent per Month interest from date till paid.

"Very respectfully
signed
"F Ganahl & Co"

It is stated in your letter of the 25th ult. that it is not to be expected that the Branch can execute more than a reasonable Amount of Coinage within a given time. The expectations of the Public, I think, have been reasonable and invariably disappointed. The Director in a letter to me of the 30th October 1837 estimates our Coinage in 1838 to be about $300,000. In a letter I had the honor to write you about the 8th of March 1838, after having consulted the Coiner on the matter, I stated, that "the house (Lizardi & Co) that made the deposite yesterday with this Branch to coin for them by the first of June next $300,000. which I was happy to inform them they might rely would be done on their depositing the bullion." On the 1st of January 1838 the Coiner reported to me, that "the largest one [of the three Steam Coining Presses which we have] may be gotten ready for temporary use in three or four weeks." Had this been done as was urged by the Director in his letters to me which I shewed to the Coiner, and myself, we should have been under no necessity of calling on your Department — we could have easily paid all of our Certificates and avoided embarrassment. As it is, we have lost the confidence of the Public. Many of our Certificates have been protested, and they are now refused by all the Banks and Bullion is seeking another destination.

I have the honor to be
your Faithful Servant
(Signed) David Bradford
Supt.

RG104 Entry 11

Treasury Department
June 19. 1839.

Sir

The enclosed Bond, received this morning from the Treasurer of the Branch Mint at N. Orleans is transmitted for your approval, as required by the 3rd. sect. of the Act of 3rd March 1835. To establish branches of the Mint of the United States.

I remain very Respy
Your Obedt. Svt
Levi Woodbury
Sec. of the Treasy.

P.S. The former bond was only for $110.000 & in one respect was found to be informal so that a new one was requested and in a larger amount.

L. W.

Dr. R. M. Patterson
Director of the Mint
Philadelphia

RG104 Entry 11

U. S. B. Mint, New Orleans.
June 20th 1839.

Hon.
Levi Woodbury, Secretary
of the Treasury of the U.S.

Sir,

I have the honor to say in answer to your letter of the 25th ultº that the bullion, for which the Certificates of the Treasurer of this Branch Mint have issued, has changed its State and cannot be identified and returned to the depositors, particularly that of which I made mention in my letter to you of the 18º ultº: that none of the holders of our Certificates have applied for a return of bullion up to this time on not being paid in coins the sums called for in the Certificates, although great complaints are made at their not being paid: that on the fourteenth instº a Notary on the part of the Commercial Bank, called on the Treasurer of this Branch Mint for payment of Certificates issued by him amounting to $ 21.625. 94/100. which not being paid, the Treasurer not being in funds, were protested.

The following is a Copy of a letter received by our Treasurer on the 17º instant, viz:

"New-

RG104 Entry 11

3

Mint N. O.
June 21. 1839.

Sir,

I have the honor to return to you, herewith, the bond of Edmund Forstall, Esq., as Treasurer of the New Orleans Br. Mint, with my approval endorsed, as required by law.

I have not yet received any direct communication from Mr. Eldridge, but I know that his investigation is going forward.

Very respy
Your obt Svt
R. M. P.

Hon. Levi Woodbury
Sec. of Treasury

RG104 Entry 11

Treasury Department
July 2. 1839.

Sir,

I transmit enclosed, a copy of a letter received this morning, from the superintendent of the Branch Mint at New Orleans - and have only to request that you will take all further appropriate steps in addition to what has already been done, to remedy the inconvenience arising from delay and to meet, as far as reasonable, the public expectations

I remain very Respy
Your Obedt. Svt
Levi Woodbury
Sec. of the Treasury.

Dr. R. M. Patterson
Director of the Mint
Philad.a

RG104 Entry 11

RG104 Entry 11

Mint U.S.
July 5th, 1839.

Sir,

I have had the honor to receive your letter of the 2d inst., with the enclosed copy of Mr. Bradford's letter to you of the 20th of June.

The protesting of a Mint certificate for neglect of prompt payment is a new measure, and I doubt its legality. I send herewith one of these certificates, and you will observe that no time is named for the payment. I would respectfully suggest the propriety of consulting Mr. Gilpin as to this question, which seems likely to become an important one to the New Orleans Mint.

I have a letter from Mr. Maxwell Multer ~~the~~ Melter & Refiner of the New Orleans Branch, of the 26th ult., in which he states that "the transactions are continued, and, so far as he is informed, to public satisfaction." This is strongly at variance with Mr. Bradford's report, and the

~~fact of the protest, cannot have been known to Mr. Maxwell.~~

Mr. Maxwell states, in his letter, that "the investigation into the affairs of the Mint has taken such a wide range that he thinks it will be a month, if not two, before I get the report, although the commission is in session about six hours nearly every day." He says that "Mr. Shield conducts the examination with great skill and impartiality." He also states that "Mr. Bradford, at the commencement, proposed to suspend the operations of the Mint, pending the investigation, and repeated his proposition again last evening, but was resisted, in both instances, by Mr. Shield, and the operations are therefore continued, and, so far as he is informed, to public satisfaction." This last remark is strangely at variance with Mr. Bradford's letter, and with the fact of the protest, which cannot have been known to Mr. Maxwell.

P. M. P.

Do

Hon Levi Woodbury
Sec of Treasury

Mint of the U. States,
July 8. 1839.

Sir,

I send herewith a Bill of Lading of 1 Carboy of pure nitric Acid, shipped 26th ult. for your Br. Mint.

I send, also, a Statement of my account with your Treasurer, for moneys received by me, & ~~expended for~~ paid out for expenses of your Br. Mint, from Jan. 1st, to June 30th; together with the necessary receipts as Vouchers. By this Statement you perceive there is a balance in my hands to the Credit of your Treasurer, of $3,174. 65.

Very respy,
Yr. faithfl. Servant
Signed R. M. Patterson.

To/
David Bradford, Esq.
Capt. &c. &c.
New Orleans.

RG104 Entry 11

RG104 Entry 11

Mint N. O.
July 9th, 1839.

Sir,

The District Attorney for New Orleans has sent me a copy of his letter to you of the 24th ult., in which he points out the necessity of appointing a new Guarantee for the New Orleans Mint. I have long had suspicions of the incompetency of Mr. Forstall, — though his integrity and good intentions have never been called in question. In a letter to Mr. Bradford, of the 5th of February last, I write as follows.

"You seem &c. [Here copy from that letter to its end.]

In this part of my letter, I received the following reply from Mr. Bradford, under date of Feb. 1839 (day omitted.)

"Your enquiries &c. [Copy paragraphs as marked.]

This explicit justification of the Treasurer of the New Orleans Mint, and his department, given by the head of the institution, could not be received by me as otherwise than satisfactory, and ~~[illegible]~~ I felt no disposition to lend Mr. DuBois ~~[illegible]~~ accepted, it was not unusual

this I now regret, for I believe that he could have prevented the confusion which now exists in the New Orleans Mint, at least so far as the accounts are concerned.

In a letter to you of the 4th ult., I mentioned that Mr. Stafford, a clerk who had been dismissed from the New Orleans Mint by Mr. Bradford, had stated that the Treasurer was "an honest man, but a mere cipher in his office, entirely unacquainted with the whole business entrusted to him." And I then remarked: "If this be so &c. I apprehend."

Such being my sentiments, I need not now say that I agree with Mr. Mitchell as to the necessity of ~~replacing~~ appointing a new Treasurer for the New Orleans Mint. The character which he gives of Mr. Cammack seems to be entirely satisfactory, and I hope that it will prove so to the President.

P. M. G.

Hon Levi Woodbury
Sec. of Treasury.

RG104 Entry 11

Mint of the U. S.
July 11. 1837.

Dear Sir,

Difficulties have occurred at the New Orleans Mint which have given rise to an investigation which is still going forward. It is by no means certain that it will end in the removal of any of the present incumbents, – and, if it shall do so, it is equally uncertain where the blow may fall. I make no objection to the early movement on your part, – but on mine it would be exceedingly improper.

With great respect,
Your faithful servant,
(signed) R. M. Patterson,
~~Director~~.

To/
John Rheiner, Jr., Esq.

RG104 Entry 11

Silver Coinage executed at the Br. Mint at New Orleans during the month ending June 30th 1859

State of Delivery		Denomination.	Number of Pieces	Value Dolls	cts	Remarks
1859						
June	7	Dimes	60.000	6.000		
"	15	Half Dimes	40.000	2.000		
"	"	Dimes	100.000	10.000		
"	18	Dimes	110.000	11.000		
"	21	Dimes	110.000	11.000		
			420.000	$ 40.000		
			40 000	2 000		
			380 000	38 000		

Treasurers Office
July 12th 1859

Edm: Forstall
Treas of Br. Mint

RG104 Entry 11

Silver Coinage
during the Month of
June 1859 —

$40.000

RG104 Entry 11

U S B Mint New Orleans
July 25th 1839

Sir,

I have the honor to report that there has been deposited in this Branch Mint, during the month of June last, of Gold Bullion, 1,153.641 oz. Standard weight, & Silver " 12,682.12 " "
and that there has been executed during the same time, Silver Coins of the value of forty thousand dollars, as will more fully appear in detail from the enclosed returns from the Treasurer to me of date the 12th. inst.

Very Respectfully
Your Faithful Servant
David Bradford
Supt.

To Dr. R. M. Patterson
Director
Mint
Philadelphia.

RG104 Entry 11

Gold Deposited at the Branch Mint at New Orleans during the Month ending June 30th 1859

When Deposited		Kind of Deposit	Gross wt after melting	Fineness	Standard weight	Value before deductions	Value after deductions
1859							
June	5	British Sov. & Doubloons	176.25	911	178.400	3,319.06	3,319 06
	7	German Coins	5.75	884	5.047	105.06	105 06
✓	10	Mexican Dust	228.65	942	289.329	4,457.48	4,457 95
✓	11	Old Gold	28.92	545	17.448	324.01	324 61
	14	German Coins	32.42	893	32.167	598.45	598 45
✓	17	Old Gold	12.62	454	6.254	116.35	116 35
✓		Mexican Bullion	68.85	550	42.840	797.42	795 54
		German Coins	101.15	890	100.400	1,860.50	1,860.50
✓		Test Bottoms	304.45	932	315.274	5,865.50	5,863 88
✓		do do	81.41	585	52.915	984.50	982.70
✓		do do	76.27	955	79.256	1,474.15	1,474
✓		do do	24.48	565	15.868	285.91	285 49
✓		do do	55.92	798	49.582	922.45	920.55
		do do	22.05	785	19.185	356.89	356 89
			1,219.17		1,153.641	21,463.05	21,455 13

Treasurer's Office July 12th 1859

Edm. Gordon
Treas. of Br. Mint.

Recapitulation:

Foreign Bullion	903.62	837.421	15,579.92	15,572.06
Foreign Coins	315.55	316.220	5,883.13	5,883.07
Total —	1,219.17	1,153.641	21,463.05	21,455.13

RG104 Entry 11

From
David Bradford, Esq.
New Orleans.
Louisianian of July 24/39.
Rec.d Aug. 7.

RG104 Entry 11

Silver Deposites received at the Branch Mint at New Orleans during the month ending June 30th 1859

When Deposited		Kind of deposite.	Gross Wt. after Melting	Fineness	Standard weight	Value before deductions	Value after deductions
1859							
June	3	Small change Spanish	110.35	894	109 61	127.74	
"	"	Hammered Dollars & old Silver	397 55	759	355 26	390 12	388.10
"	"	Hammered Dolls. old Silver & Lumps	1718 40	885	1589 75	1968 26	
"	"	Hammered dollars	100.65	881	98 52	114 64	
"	"	Mixed Coins —	84 50	885	82 90	96 46	
"	5	Mixed Coins —	109.10	890	107 88	125.55	
"	"	Mixed Coins	172 00	895	171 04	198.98	
"	7	Mixed Coins	84 95	893	84 29	98 08	
"	"	Mexican Dollars	1732 55	895	1722 92	2004.85	
"	"	Mixed Coins —	86 60	896	86 21	100 31	
"	"	Hammered Dollars	85 90	883	84 27	98 06	
"	"	Mexican Dollars	455 75	895	451 34	501 92	
"	11	Mexican Dollars	1038 90	889	1025 20	1194 12	
"	"	Mixed Coins	226 90	896	225 89	262 84	
"	"	Hammered Dollars	125 55	880	122 76	142 84	
"	"	Mixed Coins —	259 55	896	258 39	300 67	
"	12	Hammered Dollars	458 10	877	426 90	496 75	
"	14	Hammered Dollars	835 65	874	811 50	944 29	
"	15	Old Silver	91 90	870	88 83	103 35	
"	"	Mexican Bullion	164 40	980	179 06	208 29	207 70
"	"	Hammered Dollars	140 40	886	138 21	160 82	
"	"	Hammered Dollars	145 25	870	140 40	163.37	
"	17	Hammered Dollars	87 25	884	85 70	99 72	
"	"	Mixed Coins —	82.95	896	82 58	96 09	
"	"	Lump from Mexico	68 85	425	32 51	37 82	29 47
"	19	Mixed Coins —	86 45	889	85 88	99 95	
"	"	Hammered Dollars	95 80	877	94 32	109 75	
"	"	Mixed Coins	96 25	895	95 71	111 37	
"	"	Mixed Coins —	108.15	895	107 55	125 14	
"	"	Amount carried fwd.	9,210 10		9,126 34	10,620.11	525 38

RG104 Entry 11

When deposited	Kinds of deposits	Gross Wt. after melting	Fineness	Standard Weight	Value before deductions	Value after deductions
1839	Amount brot forward	12,210 50		11,206 34	13,610 11	12,777 33
June 19	Mexican Test bottoms	55 92	182	11 30	13 14	6 41
" 5	" Mexican Test bottoms	81 41	391	35 35	41 14	31 27
" 5	" Mexican Test bottoms	24 48	405	10 96	12 75	9 79
" 21	Hammered Dollars	85 95	882	82 27	95 73	
"	" Mexican Dollars	209 60	893	207 97	242	
" 5	" Mexican Test bottoms	254 55	968	252 27	293 55	292 70
"	" Mexican Dollars	432 75	895	430 82	501 31	
" 25	Mexican Dollars	97 75	888	96 44	112 22	
"	" Mexican Dollars	86 70	894	86 12	100 21	
"	" Mexican Coins	98 65	882	96 67	112 48	
"	" Mexican Dollars	87 90	898	87 80	102 15	
" 5	" Test bottoms & old Silver	144 85	964	154 61	179 90	179 44
"	" Mexican Dollars	173 55	898	173 16	201 49	
"	" Mexican Dollars	86 85	895	86 46	100 60	
"	" Mexican Dollars	435 80	895	431 87	502 55	
"	" Mexican Dollars	86 00	893	85 33	99 28	
"	" Mexican Dollars	174 50	897	173 91	202 36	
"	" Mexican Dollars	864 10	895	857 38	997 67	
"	" Mexican Dollars	130 00	891	128 70	149 75	
"	" Mexican Dollars	87 45	869	86 38	100 57	
		12,884 36		11,682 12	14,440 90	14,409 18

Treasurer's Office July 12th 1839

Edm. Forstall
Treas of Pa. Mint

Recapitulation:

Foreign Bullion	1,263 41	1,100 41	1,280 06	1,248 39	
Do Coins	11,620 95	11,581 71	13,160 84	13,160 84	
Total	12,884 36	11,682 12	14,440 90	14,409 18	

RG104 Entry 11

RG104 Entry 11

Mobile 25th July 1839.

J. Barker

Dear Sir,

We understand there have been some charges preferred against the officers of the Mint in New Orleans, if so, and there are any investigations going on, we will come over, and will say what we lost by them.

Mr Pelton had $2000 recoined and lost $180. — George Davis Jr had $1000 in Gold and exchanged it for ½ Dimes and lost $186.

{ Signed } W. Pelton
George Davis Jr.

New Orleans July 27. 1839.

Dear Sir,

You have herewith a copy of a letter this day received, there are many other complaints of a similar character, the truth of which I know nothing about.

The Doorkeeper at the Mint, who was called to impeach the testimony of Lafses, is the man, whom Mr Tyler suspected of purloining coin as reported to the Director, and he is still continued in the employment of the Mint.

Very respectfully
Your Obt Servt
(Signed) Jacob Barker.

To the Hon.
Levi Woodbury
Secy of Treasy.

New Orleans
28th July 1839

Dear Sir

I have heard herewith copy of a letter rec'd yesterday. I am not acquainted with the parties know nothing of their character I suppose they are the two persons referred to in my former letter it having been reported that two persons from Mobile obtained $1000 each in dimes for the mint that the count was found to be $80 that both the three amts do not agree I presume they are the same from which the reports originated. There are other counterfeits of a similar character by persons in this city

I have sent a copy of the written letter to the Sec'y of the Treasury notified him that Mr Bradford

RG104 Entry 11

continued to employ Mr Dennetre
& the Parties who assisted by Mr
Tyler to have pursued Cain
I shall be obliged to appear again
on the News papers tomorrow
in defence of myself against

Dr Patterson
Director of the Mint, Philadelphia

Mancur Bradford
Jersey City
Jersey

the Slanderous attack made against
by Mr Bradford as you will perceive
by the Bee of Saturday Mr Maxwell
& Tyler are in no mean uncomfortable
fall my publications, beyond the fact
of their consent that Mr Bradford

(Copy)

Mobile 25 July 1839

J Rankin

Dear Sir

We understand there
have been some charges preferred against the
officers of the Mint in New Orleans, if so, and there
are any investigation going on, we will come over
and will say, what we lost by them

M Felton had $2000 received
& lost $180

G Davis Jr had $1000 in Gold
& exchanged it for N Dimes, and lost $186

(Signed) M Felton
George Davis Jun

RG104 Entry 11

Mint of the United States.
July 31st, 1869.

Sir,

We have lately introduced an improvement in the coining-press, — due, I believe, to Mr. Adams, — to which I beg to call your attention. You know that, in the original arrangement, the collar was firmly attached to the platform, by a tongue entering into a groove. In the present plan, the collar is kept down to its place by a shoulder, — as before, — but it is kept up by four straight springs, screwed to the bottom of the platform at one end, and pressing with the other against the bottom of the collar. The effect of this arrangement is manifest. If the ~~from~~ planchet should not be deposited in the collar, but rest, (as you know too often happens,) upon its edge, no inconvenience or injury results, for the collar sinks under the pressure.

We have found a great advantage from the introduction of this plan. In the cent presses, we had occasion to coin a number of planchets which

RG104 Entry 11

we have to be too large to enter the collar, and they were all struck without ~~accident~~ difficulty. Yesterday the feeder of the half-dollar press got out of adjustment, and several planchets were struck while resting partly over the edge of the collar, yet they were not cut, and the dies were not injured.

The alteration is easily made in the existing platforms and collars, and I recommend it for your adoption.

R. M. P.

Lt/ Rufus Tyler Esq.
Coinr Branch Mint,
New Orleans.

RG104 Entry 11

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Mint of the United States.
July 31st, 1839.

Sir,

Mr. Slidell, the U. S. District Attorney at New Orleans, who was charged with the investigation of the affairs of the Mint at that place, arrived here yesterday. He has completed his laborious investigation, but has not yet prepared his report. He spent several hours in examining into our mode of transacting business, and keeping accounts, — an inquiry which has an important bearing upon the opinions which he is called upon to give. He says it may still be a fortnight before his report will be ready. He has returned to New York.

I received, on the 29th inst. a package, under your frank, containing ~~the~~ remarks ~~of Jacob Barker Esq.~~ on the New Orleans Investigation, by Jacob Barker Esq., the counsel employed by Messrs Maxwell and Tyler. This paper I have given into the hands of Mr. Slidell.

Yours &c.
R. M. P.

Hon Levi Woodbury,
Sec. of Treasury.

RG104 Entry 11

Ann Arbor, 1st January 1837

W. W. Patten
Director of the Mint
Philadelphia
Pa.

My clerk in copying my last report was so blinded by the remarks about the testimony of Lyman Dimitry (provided a copy be obtained to correct) that I may be considered to have made slight errors, to correct which I shall ask the favour of your allowing one of your clerks to insert the accompanying sentence in the margin of the page on which the following sentence is written with a ✗ of reference immediately preceding the said sentence, viz:

Dimitry after having stated it was the uniform practice to leave the certificates in the books when the amount was simultaneous with the payment, as in the case of the Casas deposite, also that Casas endorsed the certificates in the book ~~without reading, or having read, for the purpose of being laid and for the money to operate~~ came forward at the next sitting of the Commission, & voluntarily explained, saying: that he was inclined to believe the certificate to Casas had been cut from the book, & delivered to Casas, as the officers felt of purse, & Casas had to wait by hours as they were paid in small change, hours & not more than an hour.

In the paper sent you you will find the above sentence somewhere about page 12, & I have to let your clerk run pen through the two lines marked out & underscored red lines.

The letter of the Commissioner to the superintendent which the superintendent sent to you in his despatch after

of the 1st instant, the 16th of that month, the Department
[illegible] that I should have no [illegible] for the [illegible]
[illegible] signature — or treating on the subject as a boat [illegible] Jersey
Dispatch, as having been dated the 1st of May, please allow
your clerk to run his pen through the word May & insert
the word February, and then return all the papers.]

Such a state of things should excuse for Mr
P. an [illegible] acceptance of other employment, than that of the N
O. P. Department, allow me to suggest to you the expediency of
[illegible] further inquiry, before Mr Dunlap be appointed.

I write to Dr P. in consequence of the prompt
[illegible] of Mr O. P. Monroe to Leonard Mathews Esq
President of the Walton Marine Ins Co of the place, and
that valuable information.

Mr Dunlap the writer referred to Mr
Bradford said in his letter you under date of the 19 May
"I assure you that no gentleman can name such
an member in the city or any of the Northern States
and maintain his character as an honest man or
[illegible] or [illegible] without resuming it personally & promptly."

He is descendant from a coloured woman of this place, & persons who are thus descended are excluded by the law of Louisiana from holding offices, & the rule of society does not permit the mingle ~~[illegible]~~ of the two races with the
[illegible] of persons & hence could the department have
Mr Bradford could not have considered him with the light
of a gentleman, had he been willing under any circumstances to meet ~~[illegible]~~ on equal in social contact & hence the
[illegible] of Mr Bradford in [illegible] Dunlap,

his case decision, &c &c.

The singular course pursued by the Department since the investigation closed renders it necessary that there should be a decision — the present officer cannot get on together but until the place of general of the last mentioned, I hope Department & Exhibit not to that which they could not do under any other circumstances.

Very respectfully
Your Obt Servt
[signature]

[The following sentence is headed to Mr Barker's letter:
Mr Thomas Cooper states that he had entered the outside in the book without reading it, or knowing that it represented a greater amount than was mentioned in the receipt — that he did not more or less than mentioned in the receipt, that there contains in the page 19 of that in [illegible] & that, that contains only $1,[illegible], & the 3rd contains only the [illegible] he has seen or [illegible] since]

RG104 Entry 11

Treasury Department
August 2. 1839

Sir,

Your communication of the 31st. ultimo has been received.

I transmit herewith a Commission for Horace C. Cammack as treasurer of the Branch Mint at N. Orleans, which I will thank you to forward to him with the necessary instructions as to his bond (a form for which is also enclosed) and as to the manner of keeping and rendering his accounts & closing matters with his predecessor.

Should any circumstance have occurred to render proper a delay in removing Mr. Forstall, you will be pleased to report it & retain the commission until I can write to the President concerning it.

I remain very Respy.
Your Obedt. Servt.

Levi Woodbury
Sec. of the Treasury.

Dr. R. M. Patterson
Director of the Mint
Philada.

RG104 Entry 11

Treasury Department
August 5th 1839.

Sir,

I transmit, enclosed, a copy of a letter received, this morning, from Jacob Barker Esq. and will thank you to call on the proper officers of the Branch Mint at New Orleans for the necessary explanations.

I remain very Respy
Your Obedt. Svt

Levi Woodbury
Sec. of the Treasury

Dr. R.M. Patterson Director
of the Mint
Philad

RG104 Entry 11

Mint of the United States.
August 6th, 1839.

Sir,

I received, this morning, your letter of the 2d inst., with the commission, sent therewith, for Horace C. Cammack, as Treasurer of the Branch Mint at New Orleans.

This commission I shall forward immediately, with the ~~necessary~~ proper instructions. I consider the necessity of the change urgent, and no circumstance is known to me that can "under proper a delay in removing Mr. Forstall." The transfer of the office from the present incumbent to Mr. Cammack will make a through settlement of the cash and bullion accounts imperative, and it is certainly, in the present condition of things at the New Orleans Mint, exceedingly desirable.

P. M. P.

To Hon. Levi Woodbury
Sec. of Treasury.

RG104 Entry 11

RG104 Entry 11

Mint of the United States.
August 7th, 1837.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 5th inst. transmitting a copy of a letter to you from Jacob Barker Esq., regarding a suspected fraud said to have been committed at the New Orleans Mint. I have written to the Superintendent of that Mint to ask, from him, an explanation of the matter. — ~~On the 7th of May last, Mr. Tyler, the Coiner,~~

It may not be improper, however, in the mean while, to state what has occurred with regard to the door-keeper ~~above~~ referred to in Mr. Barker's letter.

On the 7th of May last, the Coiner, ~~the New Orleans Mint~~ wrote to me a letter, marked Confidential, from which the following paragraph is an extract. [See letter of Mr. Tyler, rec'd May 16.]

"I have been pointed &c. ——— get rid of him."

In reply to Mr. Tyler I stated that I could not receive any such communication as confidential, and I accordingly immediately wrote to the Superintendent the following letter.

"In a letter received this morning, [May 18th] from Mr. Tyler, — — — a report from you as to this matter."

On the 3d of June, I received a letter from Mr. Birdsall, under date of the 25th of May, from which ~~I extract~~ the following ~~passage~~ is an extract.

"Received — — — — — $30,000."

As the investigation conducted by Mr. Riddell had been ordered before this letter was received, nothing more ~~has been~~ may be done in the case of Bremond.

R. M. P.

To/
Hon Levi Woodbury,
Sec. of Treasury.

RG104 Entry 11

To
Sec: of Treasury.

Aug. 7. 1839.

RG104 Entry 11

RG104 Entry 11

Mint of the United States.
Aug. 7th, 1839.

Sir,

I send subjoined ~~to this letter~~ a copy of a letter to Jacob Barker Esq., transmitted by him to the Secretary of the Treasury, and also to me. The Secretary instructs me, with regard to it, "to call on the proper Officers of the Branch Mint at New Orleans for the necessary explanations," and I have accordingly to request them of you. I am particularly anxious to know how far this accusation may implicate the doorkeeper who was entrusted with the counting of coins, and who has been suspected of purloining them. Notwithstanding your letter of the 26th of May, I confess that I still want confidence in this man. The account that has been given to me of his contradictory evidence in the Cases can increase my suspicions; but as the written evidence has not yet been laid before me, I do not mean, by this remark, to give an opinion as to this

~~without~~ matter.

Your letter of the 25th ult., transmitting ~~the~~ your report of the operations of the New Orleans Branch Mint for June, has been received, and enables me to present to the Secretary of the Treasury, my report for the second quarter of this year.

R. M. P.
D.

To/
David Bradford Esq.
Supt. Br. Mint,
New Orleans.

[Copy.]

RG104 Entry 11

Mont Ms

Aug 7th 1839.

Sir,

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 7th inst., and deeply deplore that difficulties should still continue in the treasury department of the Miss. I hope that the accession of Mr. Cammack to the office of Treasurer will put that department on a satisfactory footing.

We have a set of nights for you here, ready for the final adjustment which I will send in a short time.

I had the pleasure of seeing Mrs. Maxwell this morning, and found her in good health. We paid a draft of $70 in her favor yesterday.

P. M. P.

To James Maxwell, Esq.

RG104 Entry 11

Treasury Department
August 9. 1889.

Sir,

Your communication of the 7th has been received. I will thank you to take such further steps as are suitable and necessary to ascertain if any theft has been committed - and, if any - by whom. Should it appear to be by any person employed about the Mint at New Orleans, no matter how small the amount - an example must be made of him both by dismissal and prosecution.

I remain very Respy
Your Obedt. Svt
Earl Trowbridge
Sec. of the Treasury.

Dr. R. M. Patterson
Director of the Mint
Phila.

RG104 Entry 11

Treasury Department
August 9. 1889.

Sir,

Your communication of the 7th has been received. I will thank you to take such further steps as are suitable and necessary to ascertain if any theft has been committed, and if any, by whom. Should it appear to be by any person employed about the Mint at New Orleans, the matter had as well be the amount, an example must be made of him both by dismissal and prosecution.

I remain very Respy
Your Obedt. Svt
Geo. Windom
Sec. of the Treasury.

Dr. R. W. Patterson
Director of the Mint
Philadelphia.

RG104 Entry 11

With Copy of my letter to David Bradford, Esq., of the 7th inst.

Mint U. S.
Aug. 12th, 1839.

Sir,

I have had the honor to receive your letter of the 9th inst., requesting me to take all suitable steps respecting the suspected purloining of coin by one of the door-keepers at the New Orleans Mint.

I send herewith a copy of my letter on the subject to Mr. Bradford, written on receiving yours of the 5th inst. I was sorry to learn, from Mr. Mitchell, that he had not entered into the investigation of this affair. It is difficult to know how to proceed against a mere attendant at the New Orleans Mint, when he is fully sustained and justified by his Chief Officer there. At all events, I must await Mr. Bradford's answer to my letter, — unless, indeed, Mr. Mitchell's report should lead to a more summary course, in the whole of this matter.

R. M. P.

To Wm. Lewis Woodbury
Sec. of Treasury.

RG104 Entry 11

Mint U. S.
May. 13 / 39.

Sir,

On the 22d of May last, I forwarded to you two pairs of half-dime dies, and on the 25th two pairs of dime dies. This receipt has not been acknowledged. I pray you to inform me if they came safely to hand.

Mr. Gilbert's report is not yet received. I am under the impression that a document was expected to be sent to me by your counsel, and its non arrival may perhaps be a cause for detaining the report. It is of deep importance to all parties, that this affair should be settled.

R. M. P.
Jr

To/
David Bradford, Esq.
Sup. Br. Mint,
New Orleans.

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RG104 Entry 11

Dr. Patterson

Director of the U.S. Mint.

Philadelphia

Sir

Mr Bradford in his letter to you of the 16th May 1839 on the subject of the Cadas affair writes to you as follows.

"6th Did Dr Hook at the time make any copy of two of the Cust. Standard and which he could refer to the deposition in question? He did – Herewith I send you his first letter and an extract from his second to me on this subject, in the latter of which I fully concur."

It appears also, that Mr Maxwell on 24th and 27th April 1839, addressed you two letters on the same subject.

Mint U.S.
Aug. 16th, 1839.

Dear Sir,

Mr. DuBois being confined to his bed by illness, I present the following answer to the inquiries made in your letter to him of the 14th inst.

Any error committed by the Assayer, in a report on bullion, is "unfavorable" to the Melter and Refiner, because it will probably lead to a rejection of his ingots when they come to be assayed, thus giving rise to an increase both in his labor and postage. If the report on the bullion is too high by one or two millionths only, the ingots ~~will be probably~~ will also be probably this much above standard, but, being within the legal limit, may still be received. Since, however, the Melter & Refiner is credited for them only as if they were of the exact standard, he really delivers an excess of fine silver for which he gets no credit, and ~~the difference would be a loss to him~~ and which constitutes a gain in his postage account, though ~~cannot be~~ is therefore "unfavorable" to him.

There is some inequality in the quality of Mexican dollars, the coins of the different Mexican Mints not corresponding in this respect. The average fineness

RG104 Entry 11

may however be safely stated at 897 thousand.

I write to you, on the 6th inst., to mention the appointment of Mr. Cammack as Treasurer of the New Orleans Mint. His assumption of office will lead to a thorough examination of the cash and bullion accounts, — a very essential supplement to the work in which you have been engaged.

I am glad to have that you are making good progress in your report.

I am very respectfully,
Your faithful Servant,
R. M. P.

To/
Thomas Slidell, Esq.
Saratoga Springs,
N.Y.

RG104 Entry 11

Tilson accounts
for July & Augt
1859

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Silver Deposits Rec'd at the U.S. Branch Mint New Orleans during the Month Ending July 31st 1839—

Date of Deposit		Description of Deposit	Gross Wt. after Melting Ounces &c	Fine Oz.	Standard Weight Ounces &c	Value before Deposit Dolls	cts	Value after Coinage Dolls	cts
1839									
July	8	Mexican Dollars—	86.60	895	86.21	100	31		
	11	do do	86.65	895	86.16	100	25		
	"	do do	86.95	894	86.37	100	50		
	"	do do	86.90	897	86.61	100	78		
	"	Old Silver & M. Dolls.	46.15	850	45.58	50	71		
	"	Mexican Dollars	86.30	887	85.05	98	90		
	"	do do	86.25	897	85.96	100	12		
	"	Mixed Coins	96.05	841	89.75	104	45		
	"	Mexican Dollars	86.75	897	86.45	100	60		
	"	do do	86.55	895	86.35	100	47		
	"	do do	95.00	887	93.62	108	93		
	"	do do	432.75	896	430.85	501	32		
	"	do do	100.50	898	100.27	116	07		
	"	do do	86.30	890	85.92	99	97		
	"	Mixed Dollars	250.65	889	247.68	288	09		
	"	Mexican Dollars	86.55	898	86.65	100	50		
	"	Mixed Dollars	150.95	888	155.27	179	57		
	"	Mexican Dollars	173.60	895	172.25	200	45		
	"	Mixed Dollars	88.40	877	86.14	100	23		
	"	Mexican Dollars	94.05	896	94.25	109	64		
	"	do do	86.65	888	85.49	99	47		
	"	Mixed Coins	86.75	897	86.48	100	40		
	"	Mexican Dollars	91.25	896	90.84	105	70		
	15	do do	86.48	896	86.07	100	15		
	"	do do	858.48	892	855.70	999	21		
	"	do do	86.70	895	86.31	100	45		
	16	do do	85.55	880	84.31	98	18		
	"	do do	86.85	897	86.56	100	72		
	"	do do	113.15	899	113.02	131	65		
	17	Just Dollars—	327.00	875	328.39	462	58	462	39
	"	Old Silver—	144.55	907	90.94	105	85		
	22	Mexican Dollars	86.15	898	85.95	100	00		
	"	do do	86.60	897	86.30	100	45		
	"	do do	86.25	899	86.15	100	24		
	"	do do	112.60	897	112.22	130	58		
	"	do do	86.15	895	85.67	99	68		
	"	do do	85.70	899	85.60	99	40		
	"	Mixed Dollars	511.90	884	502.80	584	87		
		Amount Carried for	5556.68		5485.16	6381	39	462	39

Date of Deposite	Name of Depositor	Gross Amount Dollars	Cents	Fineness Thousandths	Pure Gold Dollars	Cents	Assay Charge Dollars	Cents	Net Amount Dollars	Cents
1859	Amount Brought forward	5556	68		5515	16	63	51	39	46239
July 22	Mexican Dollars	85	35	898	85	15			99	09
	do do	87	00	900	87	00			101	25
25	do do	85	85	895	85	40			99	44
	do do	215	00	895	205	54			240	55
	do do	151	85	888	150	09			151	37
	do do	86	75	891	86	56			100	60
	do do	102	10	885	100	73			117	21
	Mind Coins	82	50	876	80	10			95	20
25	Mexican Dollars	86	55	897	86	00			100	10
	do do	86	45	895	85	97			100	05
	Left from Gold	25	70	891	24	28			28	19
27	Mexican Dollars	91	59	895	90	85			105	75
	do do	86	15	895	85	26			100	51
29	Just bottoms	1470	15	975	1267	15			4709	82
	do do	948	50	970	1032	05				
	do do	1751	95	903	1757	79				
30	Left from Gold	164	85	921	158	79			58	41
	Mexican Dollars	882	15	909	801	24			5841	24
	do do	1115	15	903	1195	42				
	do do	1557	45	922	1595	52				
	do do	1229	95	951	1299	64				
	do do	1158	80	974	1264	90			1471	88
August 3	Bars or Pigs	1950	60	992	2147	50			16551	14
	do do	1935	25	945	2055	32				
	Amalgum	1211	90	992	1335	78				
	do	1201	70	992	1324	54				
	do	558	50	991	592	94				
	Just Bottoms	1529	75	958	1624	95				
	do do	1455	00	955	1524	57				
	do do	1405	50	953	1549	89				
	do do	1958	20	955	2079	57				
5	do do	1218	00	955	1265	55			2660	16
	do do	980	00	957	1020	70				
6	Just Bottoms	1542	70	842	1535	85			8732	45
	Amalgum	1095	05	993	1087	93				
	do	1205	05	994	1351	57				
	do	809	05	993	893	51				
	Just Bottoms	1460	45	965	1566	14				
	do do	1902	90	950	2002	00			2411	10
	do do	291	50	938	311	55			369	70
		4994	87		4515	86	5063	5	19	27081 42

Date of Deposite	Name of Depositor	Gross Amount Dollars	Cents	Fineness Thousandths	Pure Gold Dollars	Cents	Assay Charge Dollars	Cents	Net Amount Dollars	Cents
1859										
	Amt Brot Over	4494	87		4515	86	5063	5	19	27081 42
Aug 1 6	Just Bottoms & Ohs	1590	50	901	1598	52				
	do do	1532	20	909	1849	66			4760	70
	do do	692	20	970	745	05				
	Left from Gold	561	55	948	155	15			157	26
	Just Bottoms	100	65	960	111	62			154	45
7	do do	1145	95	970	1255	07				
	do do	875	15	971	942	05				
9	Bars or Pigs	1210	35	975	1308	52			5793	21
	do do	1118	15	965	1198	90				
	Old Colors	294	55	899	294	02				
8	Mixt Bullion	50	90	938	82	51			95	01
9	Mexn Dollars 40 S	778	50	882	712	97			201	37
	Mixt Dollars	86	55	897	85	15				
	Mind Coins	185		852	177	18				
	Mixt Dollars	90	65	896	90	24			105	
	do do	115	75	896	115	24			151	77
	do do	86	50	896	86	11			100	20
	do do	95	75	896	95	12			108	35
	do do	136	15	899	135	99			158	24
	do do	175	00	897	172	02			200	65
	do do	86	40	897	86	11			100	20
	do do	89	00	895	88	80			103	55
	do do	175	00	895	172	61			200	85
	Mixed Dolls	1106	80	880	1012	20			1259	28
	Mixt Dollars	86	75	898	86	55			100	11
	Mixed Dollars	151	50	880	148	15			172	55
10	do do	776	40	885	703	45				
	Just Bottoms	1095	25	982	1629	50			4560	46
	do do	1580	00	980	1549	20				
		5677	37		5606	50	5357	42	9241	6.42
		3611	52		3552	31	4184	51		

Treasurers Office
August 17th 1859

Edm. Pendleton
Treas of Mint

Box 28 Folder New
State 1891 End

Silver Coins Coined at the Branch Mint New Orleans during the Month Ending July 31st 1859

Date of Delivery		Denomination of Coins	Amount
1859			
July	10	180.000 Dimes — — —	$ 18.000 00
"	12	20.000 half Dimes —	1.000 00
"	15	100.000 Dimes —	10.000 00
"	26	100.000 half Dimes	5.000 00
			$ 34.000 00

Treasurers Office
August 17th 1859

Edm: Throckmorton
Treas of Mint

Gold Deposites Recd at the U. S. Br. Mint New Orleans during the Month Ending July 31st 1859

Date of deposite	Kind of Deposite	Gross Wt Ounces	Gross Wt dwts	Fine mse	Standard Ounces	Standard dwts	Value Gold Dollars	Value Gold cts	Value after Deductions Dollars	Value after Deductions cts
1859										
July 8	Mexican Bullion	95	37		90.177		1.677	71		
" 15	French & German Coins	10	70		10.640		197	95		
" 25	Mexican Bulls	25	70	190.5	5.354		99	62	99.44	
" 29	Mexican Bullion	164	85	661.	121.073		3.754	94	3,750	59
" "	do do	78	15	950	80.755					
" 29	Test Bottoms	1.751	95	645	125.558		2555	92	2,351.60	
30	Bars or Pigs —	1.557	45	38.25	66.191		1574	69	1571.78	
" "		1229	95	15.51	18.449					
Aug 1	3 Bars & Amalgam & Castles	1.950	40	5½	7.584					
"	do do do	1.956	85	8½	17.749					
"	do do do	1211	90	4½	6.059					
"	do do do	1201	70	4	5.640					
"	do do do	538	50	3.	1.795		1.676	88	1.673.25	
"	do do do	1.529	75	5½	9.548					
"	do do do	1.459		5	8.105					
"	do do do	1.648	50	7	11.255					
"	do do do	1.959	20	10½	22.857					
6	Test Bottoms —	291	50	32	10.364		192	81	192.45	
"	do do	104	65	15½	1.802		33	52	32.88	
"	do do	1.542	70	125.5	229.065					
"	do do	1695	05	4.5	8.465					
"	Amalgam	1205	65	2.5			4.685	20	4.682.82	
"	do do	809	65	2.5	5.598					
"	do do	1.740	45	4.5	8.702					
6	Test Bottoms & Sweet	351	55	619	241.788		4.498	38	4.490.05	
7	Bars & Old Silver	1.210	35	4	5.879					
"	do do	1.118	15	10½	18.045		375	14	372.45	
"	do do	294	35	5.	1.655					
8	Grains of Mex. Bull.	80	90	6½	584		10	85		
		29.695	37		1.134.725		21.120	07	19.194.37	
		10	70		10		197	95		
		29,682	67		1,124,085		20,922	12		

Treasurers Office
August 1st 1859

Edm: Forstall
Supt of Mint

U. S. Branch Mint New Orleans
August 17th 1839.

Sir,

I have the honor to report the deposites received and the Coinage executed at this B. Mint since the first of July to this date, agreeably to the Statements in detail of the same, herewith, from the Treasurer to me, and remain

Your Faithful Servant
David Bradford
Supt.

To Dr R M Patterson
Director of the Mint
Philad.a

RG104 Entry 11

New Orleans Augt 19th 1839

Dr N. Ch. Patterson
Director of the U. States Mint

Dear Sir

I am pained to inform you of the death of James Maxwell Esqr late clerk & Refiner of the New Orleans Branch Mint, he died last evening of Yellow fever, of which he had been sick about one week, the fever was very soon overcome and he was supposed to be recovering, his stomach having rejected all nourishment and through Friday night he had so strong a disposition to convalesce that he could not be restrained and on yesterday he slept most of the day & was supposed to be doing well, a mortification of the stomach having taken place he went off very unexpectedly to the Doctor Nurse or friends.

One of my servants who had been attending Mr Maxwell was sent home on Thursday with fever.

I hope you will have passed on Mr Maxwells case before you hear of his death, if not that you will proceed to do so, the same as if he continued to live.

Nothing was more unexpected to him than that Mr Bradford should have said that he considered him a not honest man, the very idea that any one thought so and that such a suspicion should reach his friends at Phil^a distressed him beyond my power to describe until the hand of his death; it is my deliberate opinion that a more honest man never existed

Be pleased to acquaint Mr Maxwell of her

sad

RG104 Entry 11

Col. Commanding —

I am Respectfully
Your Obt. Servant
Jacob Barker

RG104 Entry 11

United States Br. Mint, New Orleans
Treasurer's Office 19th August 1839

Dr R. M. Patterson
Director U.S. Mint

Sir,

It is my very painful duty to inform you that Mr James Maxwell, the Melter & Refiner, died of the yellow fever last night at eleven O'clock — I await your instructions in relation to this sad event.

Very respectfully Your Obt. Serv.t

Edm: Forstall
Treas of Br: Mint (N.O)

RG104 Entry 11

Copy.

New Orleans, Augt. 20. 1839.

Dear Sir,

Mr. Bradford returned from Bayou Sara the latter part of last week, & issued an order dated on Saturday to suspend the operations of the Mint until the 1st of Novr. & I am informed returned to Bayou Sara on Sunday, his orders did not reach Mr. Tyler, although in the house, until Monday and never reached Mr. Maxwell, he having died on Sunday evening – on inquiry I find that several others who had been employed in the Mint and were reported as recovering, also died.

The Judge put Seals on the effects of Mr. Maxwell including his Vaults in the Mint and appointed a keeper of his keys, including those of his Vaults – & has applied to me to open his Succession, I have declined to intermeddle untill I hear from you or the Director on the Subject – he expects those in authority at the Mint will move the Court to order the Keys of the Vaults delivered to them, if so I may from the opinion entertained of those men appear in Court as the counsel of the representatives of Mr. Maxwell and ask a delay until your pleasure or that of the Director is known.

There is believed to be a large amount of Bullion in Mr. Maxwell's Vault, delivered to him for the purpose of melting into ingots, which if living he would not consent to place in the hands of Doctor Hort or Mr. De-

RG104 Entry 11

Demitry) without special authority and a most close inspection.

I was not consulted in the course pursued nor was I knowing to it, nor do I know the name of the person appointed to take charge of the Keys & effects, if I had been I should probably under the circumstances of the case have recommended the course that has been pursued.

You will perceive the necessity of an immediate appointment either of a new Superintendent, Treasurer or of a Special agent, this is absolutely necessary to protect the reputation of Mr Maxwell as well as that of the Mint and its funds.— The utmost care must be taken or his traducers will so embarrass his affairs as for it to be very difficult to establish the truth— and we all owe to his unfortunate family not to leave any avenue open for mildew to overtake that of which in life he was so tenacious and which he guarded with so much pertinacity.

I have not any wish to be employed, yet if my Services should be wanted, until permanent officers are fixed on, you have only to command my Services; but I cannot co-operate either with Mr Bradford, Dr Hort or Dimitry. If James Kennedy, Esqre should be appointed Treasurer, it would be all sufficient for the present.

I remain &c.

Hon Levi Woodbury
Secry of the Treasy.

* Mr Tyler is too much occupied with the critical State of Mrs Tylers health to attend to any business, besides he is expecting it will be his turn even now to have the fever.

RG104 Entry 11

New Orleans Nov 20th 1859

Dr. H. A. Gibson
Director of the N. State Asylum

Dear Sir

Mr. Bradford returned from Bayou Sara the latter part of last week, aimed an order entered on Saturday to suspend the operations of the asylum until the 1st of November & I am informed returned to Bayou Sara on Sunday, but never did not reach Mr. Tyler, although in the house, until Monday & never received Mr. Clement, he having died on Sunday morning ~~[illegible]~~ in the house. I find that several others who had been infected are recovering also died.

The Judge feel really in the effects of Mr. Clement in changing his results in the asylum & appointed a Keeper of the keys including those of his results and has applied to me to fix the necessary. I shall be delighted to entertain until I hear from you in ~~[illegible]~~ from the Dr. of the Tyler on the subject, the respective time in authority at the asylum will more the Court to receive the keys of the house delivered to them, if so I may, from the former entertainment of these men, appear in Court as the Commissioner of the representative of Mr. Clement and ask a delay until your pleasure or the keys of the asylum is known. There is believed to be a large amount of Bedding in Mr. Clement's Built & intended to burn for the purpose of melting into ingots, which if being, I would not consent to place in the hands of Doctor Hunt or Mr. Dimitry, without special authority and a most close inspection. I was not consulted in the same purchase

RG104 Entry 11

nor was I knowing to it, nor as I know the name of the person appointed to take charge of the keys & effects, if I have been I should probably under the circumstances have recommended the course that has been pursued

You will perceive the necessity of an immediate appointment, either of a new Superintendent, Treasurer or a Special Agent. This is absolutely necessary to protect the reputation of Mr Maxwell as well as that of the client & its funds. The utmost care must be taken or his traducers will so embarrass his affairs, as for it to be very difficult to establish the truth, and we all owe to his unfortunate family, not to leave any avenue open for Malice to overtake that of which in life he was so tenacious & which he guarded with so much pertinacity. —

I have not any wish to be employed yet if my services should be wanted until permanent officers are fixed on, you have only to command my services, but I cannot cooperate either with Mr Bragg or Dr Hart or Demitry. If James Kennedy Esq. should be appointed Treasurer, it would be all sufficient for the present —

Very Respectfully
Your Obt. Servant
Jacob Barker

P.S. Mr Tyler is too much engaged with the critical state of Mr Tyler's health to attend to any business besides he is expecting it will be his turn every hour to leave the house

RG104 Entry 11

Mint U. S.
Aug. 23d 1839.

Sir,

I was surprised by the receipt, this morning, of a letter from Horace C. Coleman Esq., dated at New York. He had just heard, from Mr. Slidell, of his appointment as Treasurer of the New Orleans Mint. In his letter he says — "I am here to attend to some business which will detain me a short time, — say 10 or 15 days, — after which, or sooner if necessary, I will go on to New Orleans to take charge of the Office, and will have the pleasure of seeing you as I pass through Philadelphia."

In my answer, I have urged him to complete his business as early as possible, and to lose no time in entering upon the discharge of his new duties. I have requested him, however, to take the opportunity of visiting this Mint, to make himself acquainted with our system of keeping accounts, and to receive any particular instructions as to the course to be pursued by him on entering upon his office. Mr. Slidell's appointment is not announced.

Yours R. M. P.

To Hon. Levi Woodbury
Sec. of Treasury.

RG104 Entry 11

Astor House
New York August 24 1839

Sir

I have the pleasure to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated yesterday.

I expect to leave here one day next week and will pay my respects to you immediately on my arrival in Philadel=phia.

I had left New Orleans before my appointment was made, and did not know of it until I reached here. I will return home as soon as possible.

With respect.
I am yours very truly
H C Carmack

R. M. Patterson Esq
Director U. S. Mint
Philadelphia

RG104 Entry 11

Mint U. S.
Aug. 27. 1839.

Dear Sir,

By a letter rec'd from Mr. Bradford this morning, I learn that nine of the men at the Br. Mint are lying ill with the Yellow fever, & that three have died. Another one has died on his voyage thence to Phil.a Mr. Maxwell, the Melter & Refiner, is down with the fever, as are also Mr. Bradford & Mr. Tyler. The hands have been dismissed, & the Operations suspended till November.

We will determine how this sad intelligence may affect your movements, when you come on to Philadelphia.

Very respectfully,
Your faithful Serv.t
(signed) R. M. Patterson,

To
A. C. Cammack, Esq,
Astor House,
New York.

RG104 Entry 11

Treasury Department
Augt. 27. 1839.

Sir,

Information has this day been received from the Treasurer of the Branch Mint at N. Orleans of the death of James Maxwell, late Melter and Refiner at that institution.

I will thank you to recommend a suitable successor to Mr. Maxwell.

I remain very Respy
Your Obed. Sert
Levi Woodbury
Sec. of the Treasury.

Dr. R. M. Patterson -
Director of the Mint
Philada.

RG104 Entry 11

Mint U. S.
Aug. 27, 1839.

Sir,

I send subjoined a copy of a letter which I have just received from Mr. Bradford. The information conveyed by it is truly melancholy. I have to add that one of the three workmen ~~who~~ mentioned as having sailed for Philad. ~~in the~~, died on the passage. A letter received by Mr. Maxwell, this morning, from a friend of his husband's, expresses the hope that he had passed the crisis of his disease. Three of the men who have died have families in Philadelphia which were entirely dependent upon them.

R. M. P.

[Hon Levi Woodbury
Sec. of Treas.

I Hen copy Mr. Bradford's letter.]

RG104 Entry 11

Treasury Department
August 30th 1839.

Sir,

I enclose a copy of a communication, received this morning from New Orleans, to which I beg leave to call your attention - that such further measures may be taken as may be deemed expedient & proper

I remain very Respy
Your Obt. Svt

Levi Woodbury
Sec. of the Treasy.

Dr. R. M. Patterson
Director of Mint Philada

P.S. I also enclose a amp. for letter addressed to you by the Consul of the United States at Hamburg.

RG104 Entry 11

(Private.)

Mint of the U.S.
Aug. 28th, 1839.

Dear Sir,

Letters received from New Orleans, this morning, inform me of the death of Mr. Maxwell, the Melter & Refiner of the Mint at that place. I believe him to have been a faithful, competent, and energetic officer, and I deeply deplore his loss.

Tell me, in confidence, if you know of any individual, acclimated to your dangerous region, and whom you could recommend as a suitable person to fill Mr. Maxwell's place. I do not require an individual now acquainted with the business of the office: I know that such a one is not to be found. But I wish a man who has ~~has~~ at least a theoretical knowledge of chemistry, — (an educated physician for example,) — a man of respectable talents, and of undoubted moral worth. Such a person, by passing the ordeal of your Board

RG104 Entry 11

Mint here, might be made competent to fill the station, by witnessing and practising the operations with us.

R. M. P.

To/
H. C. Cammack, Esq.
Astor House
New York.

RG104 Entry 11

Mint U. S.
Aug. 28th, 1839.

Sir,

Letters received this morning from New Orleans give us the melancholy intelligence of the death of James Marcoult Esq., late Melter and Refiner of the Branch Mint at that place. He died of the yellow fever, on the 18th inst.

Mr. Marcoult was for some time Clerk of the weigh-room at this Mint, and bore, in all respects, so excellent a character, that I did not hesitate to recommend him to the ~~office~~ Secretary to which he was appointed at New Orleans, — where he proved ~~himself~~ to be so competent and energetic officer. I deeply deplore his loss. — He leaves a wife and child, who are now in Philadelphia.

R. M. P.

To Hon. Levi Woodbury,
Sec. of Treasury.

RG104 Entry 11

P.S. — Would it not be right to insert, in the Globe, a paragraph to the following effect? —

New Orleans Branch Mint.

It is right to have that the yellow fever has been committing its fatal ravages in this institution.

James Maxwell Esq., the Melter and Refiner, died on the 18th inst.

Nathan Clark, Foreman of the Coining department, died on the 1st inst.

Reuben D. Bird, one of the workmen, died on the 15th inst.

Charles Scheide, another of the workmen, died on the 17th inst.

John Moody, another workman, died at sea, about the 10th inst.

~~Also~~ Several ~~other~~ of the other men are labouring under the disease, and it has been found necessary to suspend the operations of the Mint until the 1st of November.

RG104 Entry 11

RG104 Entry 11

Mint of the United States,
Aug. 28. 1839.

Sir,

I have received, with great pain, the melancholy intelligence conveyed in your letter of the 19th inst., of the death of Mr. Maxwell. His good wife was informed of his illness yesterday, & to day I told her brother of its fatal termination.

As the operations of your Mint are suspended, the only step necessary to be taken now, in consequence of the death of this officer, is to have all the bullion which may have been in his hands carefully weighed, transferred to your vaults, & credited to his account.

In addition to the deaths reported to me from New Orleans, I have to state that John Moody, another of your workmen, died at sea, soon after he left you to return to his family here.

R. M. P.

Edward Forstall, Esq.
Treas. Br. Mint,
New Orleans.

RG104 Entry 11

(Private)

Mint U. S. —
Aug. 28. 1839.

Dear Sir,

Letters received from New Orleans this morning give me the melancholy intelligence that Mr. Maxwell died, of the yellow fever, on the night of the 18th inst. I knew him well, while he was connected with this Mint, & I respected & valued him highly. I deeply deplore his loss.

Four of the workmen have died of yellow fever, and many others are now down with it. Mrs. Bradford & Mrs. Tyler have also been attacked. The operations of the Mint have been suspended until November, & the workmen are discharged.

If your report is not completed, I hope that it will be made without any reference to the death of Mr. Maxwell.

Tell me, in confidence, if you know of any individual whom you could recommend as suitable to fill Mr. Maxwell's place. I do not ask for a man now acquainted with the business of the office, for I have no hope that such a one could

be found. But I ask for a man who has at least a theoretical knowledge of Chemistry, — a well educated Physician for example, — a man of good talents, and of undoubted moral worth. It is very desirable that he should be acclimated to the dangerous region where he must reside. If the half of every year is to be lost, the New Orleans Mint cannot be sustained.

It is my wish that the selection of the officer to fill Mr. Maxwell's place should be made soon, in order that he may come on to this Mint, & be instructed in the various duties of his office, before operations are resumed at New-Orleans.

If you see the President, I pray you to communicate to him the contents of this letter.

Very respy, & faithfully
Yours &c.
R. M. T.

To/
Thomas Siddell, Esq,
Saratoga Springs,
New York.

RG104 Entry 11

RG104 Entry 11

Mint U. S.
Aug. 29 /39.

Dear Sir,

As Mr. Bradford informs me that you will remain ~~in the~~ at New Orleans, I take the liberty to ask that you will inform me of the condition of the different individuals attached to the Mint, who have been attacked by the yellow fever. I am already informed of the death of Mr. Maxwell, and of Mess. Clark, Moody, Bird, and Scheide.

The widow of Charles Scheide has just been to see me, and is anxious to have some particulars as to his last illness, and whether desirable measures have been taken to secure to the use of his family the property that he may have left behind him. Will ~~to~~ you be so good as to have these inquiries made, and to communicate the results through me?

Yr. P. M. P.

Fr/ Dr. Wm. P. Hort
Surgeon U. S. Buckhurst
New Orleans.

U S B Mint New Orleans
August 29th 1839

Sir,

I have just arrived from St Francisville and have before me your letter of the 6th 7th & 13th instant. I hasten to answer the latter.

I find that on the 7th I wrote to the Sec. of the Treasury in answer to his letters to me of the 21st & 27th of May acknowledging their receipt together with the dies therein mentioned viz; two pairs of dime dies and two pairs of half dime dies for this Branch Mint.

I do not find that I have received from you any letters of the 22nd May or 25th informing me of having forwarded dies, and as I was very much occupied with the investigation at that time I must have omitted acknowledging their reception to you from that cause. Having I assure you, Sir, been under the erroneous impression that I had informed you of the receipt of the dies above mentioned, I hope you will attribute the omission to the circumstances above stated.

Very Respectfully
Your Humble Servant
David Bradford
Supt.

RG104 Entry 11

From:
David Bradford, Esq.,
Supt. Br. Mint
New Orleans.
Dated Aug. 29. } 1839.
Rec'd Sept. 11. }

R. M. Patterson
Director of the
Mint.
Philadelphia.

NEW ORLEANS
AUG 29
LA.

RG104 Entry 11

Mint of the United States.
Aug. 29th, 1839.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of yesterday the 27th inst. respecting the death of Mr. Maxwell, the Master & Resp. of the Br. Mt. at N. O., on which sad subject I also wrote to you yesterday.

The question of a successor in this office is a very important one. I write yesterday to Mr. Slidell and to Mr. Cammack (the lately appointed Trustee) to ask them to warn to me, in confidence, any individuals, acclimated to the fatal region of N. O., possessing at least a theoretical knowledge of Chemistry, gentlemen of liberal education and of unexceptionable moral worth, who would be willing to accept the vacant situation. I do not ask a person acquainted with the duties to be performed, for I have

RG104 Entry 11

hope that such a one could be found. But if upon an individual suitable in all other points can be met with, the military instructions can be given to him here before leaving is return at the N. O. Mint. That sufficient time may be allowed, however, it is very desirable that the selection should be made as early as possible.

P. M. P.

Hon. Levi Woodbury
Sec. of Treasury

RG104 Entry 11

Mint U. S.
Aug. 29 / 39.

Dear Sir,

The information conveyed in your letter of the 19th inst., of the death of Mr. Maxwell, has given me great pain. Mr. Maxwell was well known to me, while attached to this Mint, and I have ever held him in high regard.

Mrs. Maxwell had been informed of her husband's illness, and I yesterday communicated to her brother the intelligence of its sad termination.

I have, in a letter written to-day, instructed the Treasurer of the New Orleans Mint not to take any steps as to Mr. Maxwell's ~~effects at~~ bullion &c., until ~~he receives~~ an opinion further directions from me. The course to be ultimately taken is a very simple one, being nothing more than the transfer of all this bullion, at its standard weight, from Mr. Maxwell's ~~credits to the Treasury~~

RG104 Entry 11

account to that of the Trustees, — crediting Mr. Maxwell's account at the same time. But this ought to be done in the presence of the accredited friends and representatives of Mr. Maxwell's family. Perhaps it is best that it should not be done, until Mr. Horace C. Cammack, who is appointed trustee to succeed Mr. Forstall, ~~shall~~ and who is now in New York, shall ~~take~~ & enter upon the discharge of his duties.

I will consult Mr. Campbell, — Mrs Maxwell's brother, — on the subject of this affair, and write to you again.

P. M. P.

To/
Isaac Baker, Esq
New Orleans.

P.S. I find I have neglected to acknowledge the rec't of your letter of the 20th. — Since I wrote, I have seen Mr. James Campbell. He has communicated to his sister the fatal news from New Orleans. She is overwhelmed with grief, and, I am sorry to say, is in bad health. — Mr. Campbell says that the family have entire confidence in you, and, if it be necessary to have Mr. Maxwell's mint affairs brought to a settlement before further instructions from here, it would be their wish that you should represent their interests in the business.

Yr. Mr. P.

RG104 Entry 11

RG104 Entry 11

Mint Utah
Aug. 29 1869.

Sir,

In my letter of yesterday, when I stated that all the bullion left in Mr. Maxwell's ~~possession~~ vaults, should be transferred to ~~you~~ the keeper of the Treasury, and his account be credited for it, I neglected to add that, for the sake of all parties concerned, this ought to be done in the presence of persons known to be in the full confidence of Mr. Maxwell's representatives. On the whole I would recommend that no step be taken in this matter for the present, ~~and~~ nor until you receive my further instructions. Mr. Maxwell's vaults have a person, here sealed, and will be kept ~~sealed~~ so until mutually satisfactory measures can be taken for the settlement of his accounts.

Yours &c
W. M. P.

To Edwd Tostalli, Esq
Treas. N.O. B. Mint

RG104 Entry 11

New Orleans August 30th 1839

David Bradford Esqre
Superintendent Pa. Mint

Sir

In answer to your direction for the necessary explanations relative to the letter of M. Felton and George Davis to J. Barker dated Mobile 25th July 1839 — I have to state that Mr Felton's deposite was not made for coinage but merely to obtain small change — that Mr Felton did not come himself for the money but sent an individual by the name of Hunt as far as I can recollect — that this individual forwarded it to Mobile on board of a steamboat — Mr Felton having previously left the city — that the money was taken from unbroken boxes in the same state as they had been received from the coiner — On the same day a gentleman from Mobile got $6000. in dimes which he took along with him on the same boat — it was of the same delivery, and upon counting found the amount correct — As for Mr Davis, he did not make a deposite but came to the Mint with $1000. in half Eagles, and as we were in want of Gold, having had no Gold yet struck, the Treasurer said to

to give him $1000 in dimes for his Gold — the Amount was delivered to him personally and tested in his own presence

Very respectfully Your
Obedient Servant
M. C. Dimitry

RG104 Entry 11

David Bradford Esqre
Supt. Bo Mint

RG104 Entry 11

RG104 Entry 11

Mint of the United States
Philadelphia, Aug. 8th, 1839.

Sir,

By a letter received from Jacob Barker Esq., I learn that ~~a seal~~ seals ~~have been~~ placed upon the vaults of the late Mint & Refinery of the Branch Mint at New Orleans, and ~~have been placed~~ that the keys are in the hands of a suitable ~~person~~ guardian. Allow me to pray you that this very proper precaution be continued until I shall be able to ~~direct suitable persons to the~~ give such instructions to the Officers of the Mint, as shall, at the same time, secure the interests of the government and of Mr. Maxwell's family, and meet your approbation. The unhappy relations existing between Mr. Maxwell and some of the Officers of the Mint, render great caution and delicacy peculiarly desirable for all parties.

I am, Sir, with great respect
Your faithful Servant
R. M. Patterson
Director

To
Wm. J. Bermudez
Judge of the Court of Probate
New Orleans.

Copies of letters transmitted to Sec. of Treas. by Secret Barker Esq., Originals returned Sept. 26. 39, to Mr. Barker.

"U. S. B. Mint N.O.
August 31. 1839.

"Sir,

I hereby direct that you employ such man or men as may be requisite to keep the machinery in your department in proper order till the 1st of November next.

I have to inform you that I have directed that the roof of this building be repaired and as the stairs in your department will have to be used for that purpose I hereby direct that you leave the Key of the rolling doors or that of the Boiler room with Mr. Dicking, the Porter, when you are not using it yourself."

(Signed) David Bradford,
Supt. "

"To)
Burns Tyler, Coiner,
U. S. Mint,
N. Orleans."

"this order was sent in to us yesterday - the rooms were opened the day before - without the Coiner's consent or knowledge or without his Keys for the doors."

(Signed) "P. B. Tyler."

Saturday morning,
7 Sept. 1839.

RG104 Entry 11

RG104 Entry 11

U S B Mint New Orleans
September 1st 1839

Sir,

In answer to your letter of the 7th ults. relative to the letter of W. F. Felton and George Davis to J. Barker, dated "Mobile, 25th July, 1839" I have to say that the Treasurer of this Branch Mint has adopted the rule observed in the Custom-house in this City, and in all Banks, to wit; that when a payment is made, it is the duty of the party receiving payment to verify the same at the time, as all responsibility thereafter ceases.

I enclose a letter of Mr. Dimitry to me of the 30th ultc. on this subject.

Mr. Brémond, was discharged by me on the 17th inst. in consequence of the operations in this B. Mint being suspended on account of the prevalency of the yellow fever, at which time I discharged all the men I found remaining here. I firmly believe that he acted with diligence and fidelity whilst employed here, and I had that character of him previously from the best sources of information. I am sorry the Commissioner did not investigate the charge against him as I know it would have proved erroneous. His testimony was reduced to writing and will show whether it was contradictory or not.

It has often occurred that small coins, after being put into boxes and delivered, have droped

out of the hands in moving them from the Treasurers Office to the street which may have been the manner in which the loss of Mr. Davis, who, I am informed, is a man of high character for honesty and veracity, may be accounted for. I was satisfied from the investigation I made at the time he informed me of his loss, that he had been paid the full amount of his gold $1000. by Mr. Dunlap the only clerk in this B. Mint, at that time. I was and am still perfectly satisfied that Mr. M. Felton was also fully paid.

Any further information that you may desire or that may occur to me I will promptly furnish.

Mr. Forstall informs me that he wrote you, and also the Secretary of the Treasury, informing you of the death of Mr. Maxwell.

Very respectfully
Your faithful Servant

RG104 Entry 11

Mint of the U. S.
Sept. 2. 1839.

Sir,

I have the honor of introducing to you, Horace C. Cammack, Esq., newly appointed to be Treasurer of the U. S. Branch Mint at N. Orleans. Mr. Cammack has passed some days with us here, — & hopes usefully. He goes on immediately to assume the duties of his office.

I have rec'd a letter to-day from the Coiner of the N. Orleans Mint, of which the intelligence is favorable. There are no new deaths, & the sick are generally convalescent.

R. M. P.

To Hon. Levi Woodbury
Sec. of Treasury.

RG104 Entry 11

Mint of the U. S.
Sept. 2. 1839.

Dear Sir,

I send you herewith two or three letters of introduction. It is possible that I may not be able to call on you this evening, and, at all events, I wish you not to stay at home for the chance of seeing me.

I pray you to write to me freely on your taking office. I particularly beg you to seek for a suitable candidate to fill Mr Maxwell's place.

Believe me, very respy & faithfully yrs.

R. M. P.

To
Hon. Benjamin Rush,
Mansion House Hotel.

RG104 Entry 11

Mint N. O.
Sept. 2. 1839.

Dear Sir,

Let me have the pleasure of introducing to you Mr Horace C. Commander, who has been recently appointed Treasurer of the New Orleans Br. Mint. I am well assured both from the recommendations of others, and my own intercourse with him, that he is a gentleman possessed of the character, energy & skill required for the office which he is called upon to fill.

R. M. P.

To/
Rufus Tyler, Esq.
Conn N.O. Br. Mint.

Mint of the United States.
Sept. 2d, 1837.

Dear Sir,

Your letter of the 21st ult., just received, has relieved me from much apprehension. Knowing, merely all the hands in your Mint to be sick, I feared any day to hear of more deaths, and I was also very uneasy with you other friends, as to the effects of Mr. Taylor's. The death of Mr. Maxwell is sadly to be deplored. I regarded him highly, and have never doubted either his capacity, efficiency or perfect integrity.

Although the coining is stopped for a time, you may perhaps employ your remaining hands advantageously in putting all your machinery in full working order, and particularly in making the alteration which I recommended to you, and I am glad that you approve.

RG104 Entry 11

An new striking half dollar with the figure of Liberty in full length. The new die will be sent to you in time; and I hope that, on your receiving ~~same~~ work you will take care to bring up the coinage of the deposits, by striking large coins.

You may look for Mr. Cammack, the new Treasurer, in a few days after receiving this letter.

Remember me kindly to Mrs. Tyler and your children.

P. M. S.

Hon
Robert Tyler, Esq.
N. O. Louisiana

RG104 Entry 11

Mint of the U. S.
Sept. 22, 1839.

Dear Sir,

I have the pleasure to introduce to you Mr. Horace C. Cammack, who has been appointed Treasurer of the New Orleans Branch Mint. I am well assured, both from the recommendations of others and my own intercourse, that he will be found a skilful, energetic, valuable officer. I commend him to your kind attention.

Very respectfully
Your faithful Servt.
R. M. P.

To
Dr. Wm. P. Stark,
Assayer Br. Mint,
New Orleans.

RG104 Entry 11

Mint of the United States,
Sept. 3d, 1839.

Dear Sir,

Allow me to introduce to you my son, Mr. Robert Patterson, whom I send to New York for the purpose of taking charge of your report and the accompanying documents, & to whom, therefore, you will please to deliver them.

My son is an aspirant to the honors of your profession, having just been received as a graduate in law, at the University of Virginia.

My news from New Orleans is more favorable, there being no new deaths, and the sick being all reported as convalescent.

I am most respectfully,
& faithfully, your,
(Signed) R. M. Patterson.

To
Thos. Slidell, Esq,
U. S. Dist. Attorney for New Orleans,
New York.

RG104 Entry 11

Gadsby's Hotel 1839.
Washington City September 4

My dear Sir

I have to day had an interview with the Hon. Secretary of the Treasury, and have seen the various accounts which have been rendered from the Branch mint at New Orleans.

The accounts of Bullion, and of Specie Coined, are not, I understand, stated in a satisfactory manner. & something was said about having these accounts, in future, rendered to the Mint at Philadelphia instead of to the Secretary of the Treasury.

I leave here this evening, and will remain two or three days in the vicinity of Fredericksburg Virginia, where a letter by return mail will reach me if you should be pleased to write.

I.

RG104 Entry 11

I am with sentiments of respect &
esteem yours very truly

H. C. Cammack

To
Dr R M Patterson
Philadelphia

RG104 Entry 11

RG104 Entry 11

Unofficial

Dear Sir

I have hurried herewith to run over the testimony & documents collected in the late investigation at the N.O. Navy Yard, with my official report thereon. The great bulk of the papers, as they stand from you will serve have the courage to read them all, but I feel sure you will take the trouble to see what I have taken so little pains to bring together. There are some things about the affair we could wish, particularly the inconsistencies & contradictions in the testimony, & the Carey petition, and the great number of circumstances, many of them at the first blush trivial & insignificant, by which, more than by the direct assertions of witnesses, my mind has been brought to the conclusions I have expressed in my report.

I am glad to hear you were pleased with Mr. Cannock. I shall be much disappointed if he does not contribute to bring back to the service the lost confidence of the public. His strong points, are energy & good hard sense. A little experience will make him work regularly with his duties, & he is under no fear, I will not allow himself to be managed by his Clerks, or led blindfold by his brother officers.

ful inquiry to be the Merchants must prospect & I am satisfied there much energy & activity are necessary to raise it from its present prostrate condition.

I shall pass through Philadelphia in a few days when I hope to have the pleasure of calling upon you & will explain more at large any matter which may Report may seem obscure. It is a long story, but little is moral or despond as I shall show how to make it. Sir Garth it does not by any means cover all the iniquitous of the administration of the custom house. I endeavored to sign the principal points; but when you read the testimony you will see a good many inquiries that I have not detailed, & with it all you will see that the picture I have sketched of the depth of this & the prostration is not too much.

I am in every truth, Yours &c &c

Thos Ritchie

Mr. 5. 1839.

R. M. Patterson Esq
Phila

Pray send the day to keep for Thos J. a copy of the Report, but not of the evidence & documents. Send a copy of the latter down & send it a day or two after. A copy of Rudolph's brief - would it not be proper to enclose you opinion as to how title should be made.

RG104 Entry 11

Mint of the United States,
Sept. 6. 1839.

Dear Sir,

I have received your letter from Washington of the 4th inst.

Instructions and forms in relation to the account of the New Orleans Br. Mint, were sent by me, on the 20th of May 1838, to Mr. Bradford, through the Secretary of the Treasury. The First Comptroller has complained that the bullion account, which includes the returns of coinage, was not explicit, and had not therefore been acted upon. I have requested that examples of these faulty returns should be sent to me, that more exact instructions may be given if necessary.

The Comptroller has as you mention, raised the question, whether the bullion accounts of the Br. Mints ought not, in the first instance, to be submitted to my examination. Such a question cannot, in my judgement, be entertained. I am not an auditor, and have nothing to do with the details of your accounts, or of our own. It is my duty to prescribe the forms of your returns under the sanction of the Secretary of the Treasury, and this duty has been attended to; but I cannot consent to be made an accounting officer, - such a

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duty not being required of me by law, and not being compatible with my other functions.

Mr. Shidell's report, with the accompanying documents, was received to day.

Very respectfully,
& faithfully yours,
R. M. T.

To
A. C. Cammack, Esq.,
Fredericksburg
Virginia

RG104 Entry 11

New Orleans
Sept. 7. 1839

Dear Sir:

I have only time by this morning's mail, to send you the Mint Ordered Letter & Memorandum by which you will perceive that the people at the Mint are busy at Tyler in his last month.

Dr. M. has been offering the ordered to transmit it & the Director of the Mint with the Letter

Mr Bradford is at Bayou Sara. Mrs is attending some of the extreme sickness of Mr Tyler as Dr Hirt tells Mr Lockwin Entirely out of the case. Mr possible for him to remain at the Sick Bedside of his young by and friends

Yours &c
[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

Dear Sir

I am requested by [illegible]
for that [illegible] Taylor is very low with the
[illegible] [illegible] to survive
through the day. his Brother Mr Taylor
is with him and does everything in his
power to relieve him. he has sent out
Messengers by every man fully so that
I cannot the [illegible] [illegible] the
Point was to the [illegible] and
I [illegible] about the [illegible] [illegible]
he is not aware of my [illegible] [illegible]
or the Subject but I do recommend
his [illegible] [illegible] time to be the
[illegible] of his Brother [illegible]

Mr Taylor [illegible]
[illegible] the Young man is [illegible]

RG104 Entry 11

intelligent & has been employed in the
N O Branch Mint for many months
was he lost upon himself by. We fell
it is my duty as a friend of the family
of the Cornelius that he and his Uncle
should be employed in future in the
Mint & that Mr. Tyler should be
permitted to occupy the Rooms he
now occupies until the state & date
in a new Comm, if he approves of
this will he be pleased to address
a letter & return mail to Mr
Bradford Signifying the same
otherwise I believe that the family
will be very uneasy & mortified
disappointed

Yrs Respectfully
Wm Ottolard

Dear Sir Mr Pillsbury Secretary
Treasury of the U S Mint
Phila

Mr Hunniday has a Middle
letter in his name it is
Joseph Mr Hunniday, he is a
nephew of this boy

Dr. Isaac Barker Esq

Dear Sir

My Dear Brother is dying. the doctors have just left him. I have a great deal of feeling yet, but hardly know what to do — the Doctors will stand one an undertaker & I shall arrange with him — I shall then wish you to publish his death & time of burial — which I cannot now justly determine

Lodge Morgan is prospecting a position of his condition & will probably assist the Study soon as he is dead. — I have written you thus early in order to receive any suggestions from you in time

Yours truly

Philo B. Taylor

Mr Taylor is Dead
Shave another page plate & so
by tomorrow's mail I will B

RG104 Entry 11

New Orleans, Sunday morning

9th September 1839.

My dear Sir,

The painful duty devolves upon me, to inform you of the death of Mr Zylee, the chief Coroner of the Parish district in this city. He expired this morning at 7 O'Clock, from the effects of an severe & violent attack (of the scourge of our Country), the yellow fever. Mr Zylee is extremely weakly & much debilitated, having but recently partially recovered from a like attack; this little Son has the fever this morning, what will be his fate, many only know.

By the death of Mr Zylee, the district in this place, will be placed in an extreme delicate position. I have no doubt, but that you will find it difficult to supply his place in that institution, I consider his loss as a public misfortune, he was indeed a man of genius, an honest, correct and intuitive Citizen, and indeed an honest man, in every respect.

The fever now proceeds to an alarming extent, and what is scarcely to be believed in other

RG104 Entry 11

Mary, is that visiting upon visiting was arriving
any day in our pestiferous atmosphere, many
of them will be cut down such an unusual
state of things, but so it is, and so it will continue
to be, a long & dangerous individually when Politics
are only more than life itself.

With my best wishes, from your heart
I am dear Joseph, believe me to be
truly your friend
Marshall Gordon Stone

Treasury Department
September 10. 1839.

Sir,

In compliance with the suggestion contained in your communication of the 5th the Comptroller of the Treasury has been requested to transmit to you the coinage and bullion accounts of the Branch Mints that are not in a satisfactory form and to point out to you wherein they are deficient.

The object in requiring these accounts to be rendered to the Department thus you is merely that you may see that they are made out in conformity to the instructions given by you - and not for the purpose of having them audited by you.

I enclose for your examination a recommendation on behalf of Mr. E. P. Harlow as Melter and Refiner at N. Orleans in place of Mr. Maxwell -

Very Respectfully
Yours &c.

Levi Woodbury
Sec. of the Treasury

Dr. R. M. Patterson
Philadelphia

RG104 Entry 11

Branch Mint New Orleans
11 Sept. 1839.

Dr. R. M. Patterson
Director of the Mint

Sir,

Since this moment received your esteemed favor of the 29 ult., I will with great pleasure reply to the enquiries you have made. Johnson, Dennis, Moore, Cooper, Pemberton and Hamilton, Bernstead, Lynd & Lovett are the men who have had, (Mechanics for the Mint) who have escaped, the yellow fever. Hale is workman in the Melting & Refining department and the fever lasts from 48 to 60 hours. Johnson, Hamilton & Lynd have been to the North, Bernstead is in Cincinnati & Moore, Cooper, Lovett & Hamilton are among the city & will remain during the season. I am happy to say that all who have received office have perfectly recovered without any check to their constitution. Mr. Moore is working with Mr. Brown at the Drawing Machine & receives $3.00 pr day. Hale has charge of the Melting department & Dennis & Hamilton have charge of the Coining department. Those who are not immediately employed in the Mint, are anxious to know, if they will be allowed half wages as they were last year, & on the same conditions. Every attention possible was paid to Mr. Hale. He lost his life through his attendance when there was every prospect of his recovery.

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he died in four days from the first attack of the fever
was insensible the last two days. After his stomach
was extend, he took advantage of the momentary
absence of his nurse, to get out of bed & drink
immoderately of water, after which he ate sufficient
hard bread without any pickling them. He twice
knew after he had the last vomit, which clearly
demonstrated by its peculiar character that the
mucous coat of the stomach was destroyed.
Little has died in debt but leaves eight
dollars was found in his trunk, & he was
informed that he had just before his decease
but considerably after getting table.
Monday. Had to perform the melancholy
duty of informing you of the death of Mr Tyler
a few hours afterwards, I found Judge
Morgan an appointed judge of the City Court
opening seals on every door of the
Cincinnati department by the direction of
Mr Phelps Tyler & stating that according
to law he so opened his judicial seal
on the Papers of the deceased & immediately
commenced a parte the proceedings
attending that it was the property
of the U.S. & that of Mr Tyler & that
the matter in this district
required daily attention to prevent
from injury & I asked him who
would be responsible for any injury
that might result. He replied that
he did not know, but that he had to follow
the directions of the Administrators.
immediately directed Mr Porter to enter a
protest against the proceeding. I also applied
to Judge Kennedy to remove the seals
he said he could not do so, until the
succession of Mr Tyler's estate was proved
in his Probate Court. I then consulted
Mr Morgan, who advised me to employ additional
guards to watch the seals & vault
by day & night. I shall write to
Judge Lawrence who unfortunately
is ill, & to the District attorney
to protect & preserve the property
of the U.S. from injury. I
feel myself placed in a very
delicate & responsible position, but you
may ~~rest~~ assured that I will exert
myself to the utmost to preserve
the property of the US from injury.
Some persons are of opinion that as
the fever commenced early, it will
soon disappear, but the most experienced
citizens of Philadelphia are of opinion
that nothing but a hard frost will
put a stop to its ravages. There
are a great many unacclimated persons
in the City, whose circumstances will not
permit them to fly, & many strangers
arriving from Europe, who will in my
opinion keep the fever full activity until frost

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Business is perfectly at a stand in the C.G.S. the suspension of the operations of the Mint has been very limited extent a prominent office

I remain very respectfully
your obt. Servt.
R. M. Patterson
Superintendent

Dr. R. M. Patterson
Director of the Mint
Philadelphia

Hon. Mr. Phillips
Secretary of the Treas.
Washington
Sept. 11. 1839
Recd. " 20.

RG104 Entry 11

Mint N. S., Feb. 12/37.

Sir,

I have duly received your letters of the 11th & 12th inst. Of the latter, including Mr. Penistan's note to you, I have sent a copy to the Secretary of the Treasury.

The transmission of the dime and half dime dies sent to you in a letter, was announced to you in a post-script of my letter of the 23d of last month; but as that letter contained other matter of great interest, may very naturally have escaped your ~~see~~ recollection.

The widow ~~of~~ Owen D. Bird has just called at the Mint, and begs me to request that, ~~if any thing be due to her husband's estate, it may be sent this way forthwith~~ if you shall have any monies to transmit ~~on~~ for his family, they may be so sent as to be sent to her to Lee. She states that urged because she has heard that her husband's brother has asked to have the remittances made to him, as ~~administrator~~ executor, & which she fears may ~~hinder~~ delay the receiving of the money to him, & such other effects as his executor.

Since the office of Mint Reformer in your Mint has been abolished

vacant by the death of Col. Allen, I am instructed by the Department, to make inquiry as to a suitable individual to fill it. You formerly recommended Mr. Edward P. Bartlett. Let me ask you if you know any other person whom you could recommend, if objections, made to Mr. Bartlett, shall be found of sufficient force to make his appointment inadvisable.

R. M. C.

To
David Bradford Esq.
Dist. Dr. Marsh,
New Orleans.

P.S. Dr. Marsh's man, Alexander, has just informed me, that Dr. Marsh permitted for a period of Assayer, at his department, to be performed here. I cannot pay a bill for such work without a request to that effect from you; but, if you sanction the expenditure, I will make it cheerfully.

RG104 Entry 11

Branch Mint N. Orleans Sept. 12th 1839

To

R. M. Patterson. Esq.

Dear Sir

I presume you will have been informed of my Brother's death, before the receipt of this, as I wrote Mr Baldwin by the first mail – so that my object in writing is to remind you of the destitute condition of his widow & six orphan children

I would not picture their distress to you except from deep anxiety for their comfort and a belief that circumstances might occur which would enable you in your official capacity, to afford them some temporary relief. From the time my Brother first left Phila. he had been sinking money & was obliged to borrow of his friends to protect himself & family from dishonor & still greater distress. Yet in the midst of his unmerited prosecution & unprovoked suspension he continued to labour hard to protect and advance the public interest and I feel confident, from his having communicated to me his invention & improvements, from time to time, that ere long, he would have surprised you most happily with their results. He had taught his son William to execute much of the most difficult part of the work, such as turning & filling the dies – Collars – Cutting dies &c – which he performed with extraordinary skill & dexterity.

I regret very much that so many valuable improvements as he has made in almost every branch of the business, could not have

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been communicated to you before his death as I believe that many valuable tools so peculiarly adapted to the present system of coining will be lost in the hands of his successor, for but my few of his workmen were trusted with the secrets of his department on account of the malicious[illegible] of his enemies, which I fear extends beyond his death to the discomfiture of his family. I had requested Mr Derrick (one of Mr Maynes best men) who had worked with my Brother during his sickness) to visit the house but he was refused entrance at the gate, notwithstanding the gates were open to all other parts of the Mint. As also in another case, one of our friends was admitted & followed up according to the order of Sir Hort, (who is acting Supt) "at the points of the bayonets" Now we cannot for this unfeeling course, but that it shuts out from Mrs Tyler some few comforts, which in her present feeble & disconsolate condition would be of great service to her. she is not able to stand on her feet or I should remove her at once across the lake, untill she should entirely recover. Mr is about the house but has not yet been out. My Brother made a will & appointed me his executor &c. The estate is all under seals except what is left out for the use of the family.

Yours Very Respectfully

Philo B. Tyler

P.S. Your of the 2d inst is rec'd.

RG104 Entry 11

Mint U. S. — Sep. 12/39

Sir,

We have had the honor to receive your letter of the 10th inst., with the enclosed recommendation of Elder Edw. P. Tracy, as Master & Repairer of the N. O. Branch Mint.

A letter from Jacob Barker Esq., of the 1st of August, has the following paragraph.

"If such a state of things should arise as to render it advisable to accept other employment than that of the N. O. Branch Mint, allow me to suggest to you the expediency of making further inquiry before Elder Tracy be appointed. A letter to J. W. Lockwood Esq., one of the firm of Lockwood & Brothers, and to Leonard Matthews, President of the Western Marine & Fire Ins. Co., of this place, would elicit valuable information."

As the office in question is one of great importance and high trust, I have felt it my duty to write to those gentlemen, to ask of them, in confidence, their opinion as to the suitableness of the proposed candidate, and the grounds on which their opinion is founded.

R. M. P.

To Hon. Levi Woodbury
Sec. of Treasury

(Confidential)

Mint U. S.

Philadelphia, Feb. 12/37.

Sir,

Mr. Edward S. Trayton has been recommended to the President as a suitable person for the office of Melter to the Refinery of the Mint at New Orleans, vacated by the death of Mr. Maxwell. This recommendation has been referred to me by the Secretary of the Treasury, for my opinion. As the office in question is one of high trust, it is my duty to acquire every information within my reach, respecting the candidates, and I have been referred to you as possessing a knowledge of the character and claims of Mr. Trayton. May I ask you, then, to communicate to me, in confidence, your opinion as to the suitableness of this candidate, and, so far as you may think proper, the grounds on which the opinion is founded.

Yr.

R. M. Patterson
Director

To
S. R. Zacharie Esq.
& Leonard Mathews Esq.
New Orleans.

RG104 Entry 11

Mint N. C.
Sept. 12/39.

Sir,

I send herewith a copy ~~of a letter~~ of a letter from the Superintendent of the Mint Branch Mint, on the subject of the deficient returns for deposits made by M. Felton and by Geo. Davis Esq.; mention in the letter of Saml Barker Esq., transmitted to me by you on the 5th ult. — I do not think it possible that any thing further can be learned as to this matter. My confidence in the probity of Mr. Brenner is gone, and I shall object to his being again employed when the questions of the Mint are resumed.

P. M. P.

To Hon. Levi Woodbury,
Sec. of Treas.

[Letter of Mr. Bransford of deficiency of Mr. Demotry of Aug. 20/39.]

RG104 Entry 11

To Hon. Levi Woodbury
Sec. of Treasury

Copy

New Orleans, 14 Sept. 1839.

Dear Sir

We have herewith copies of a letter from Mr Bradford forbidding Mr Leitch a residence in the Mint, he was Mr Maxwell's foreman and of the most useful men employed in the Mint, he had the Pattern from in the building very accurately and had nearly recovered when Mr Maxwell was taken sick. Mr M. appointed him to take care of the operations appertaining to his Department, and requested him by all means to keep in the Mint, and at the death of Mr Maxwell the Judge appointed Mr Leitch to take care of the fires.

We also send herewith a copy of a letter from Doctor Hoff subscribing himself acting Superintendent to Mr Kerfoot who had been employed by Mr Taylor to take care of the Machinery and by the Judge at the death of Mr Taylor to take care of the Series, he had also received from a second attorney the Pattern from, by these letters you will perceive by what spirit these men are governed and that nothing will satisfy them but the retrocession from the Mint of every man who dared to tell the truth when examined or actively at the late investigation.

The Director wrote a letter to Mr Taylor under date of the 2. Sept. authorizing the employment of men during the sickness and to take care

Machinery in order and prepared to be [illegible] when the time should arrive for commencing business and if my recollection serves me correctly the letter from Mr Bradford to Mr Styles dated about the 1st Sept. forwarded to you on the 9th inst. authorises the appointment of suitable persons to take care of the Machinery, and yet Doctor Patterson wrote a letter to the newly appointed requiring an assurance that if he remained in the Mint he would not be paid his wages. If that letter was only forwarded to the Director will you be pleased to return it to me as it may be wanted, stating that fact. If not its proper that I should deliver the letter to the Director of Mr Styles at whose instance I made application to the Comptr to have the Seals on all the rooms except the Vaults removed, the Seals on the Vaults of the Coining as well as on the Vaults of the Melting & Refining will remain until the arrival of a new Treasurer so far as I am informed the Gentleman qualified.

I intend it a public misfortune that there has been so much delay in the appointment of a competent Superintendent who would remain here at all seasons when others die or fly from fever & fever contagious. It is more important to have the Superintendent on the spot as it is entirely by the assistance of the present Superintendent.

With great respect
Your obt Svt
Jacob Barker

Dr C. M. Patterson
Director Mint
Philadelphia

New Orleans Sept 14 1839

Dear Sir

I have herewith a copy of a letter this day addressed to the Hon. the Secretary of the Treasury. If he forwarded to you agreeably to my request a letter addressed by Mr Bradford to Mr Styles on or about the 9th inst. I shall be obliged by your returning it to me by an early mail.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svt
[illegible]

Doctor C. M. Patterson
Director of the
U.S. Mint
Philadelphia

U.S. B. Mint
Sept. 1. 1839

Peter Arnold

Sir:-

I have to inform you that there is directed that you are only to remain in the mint during my absence, which will be I expect the first of Nov. next.

Chas. Bradford
Supt.

New Orleans 9. Sept. 1839

Mr George Hooper

Sir: I hereby remind you that your name was put off & discharged from the Mint on the 17th August, & that from that date until you may be again employed by the Superintendent, you will have no claim against the Mint or U.S. for wages.

Yours &c
W. P. Hunt
Coin[illegible]

RG104 Entry 11

Mint U.S.
Sept. 16/39.

Sir,

I have been called upon, by the Treasury Department, for the annual estimate for the Mint and its Branches, and have therefore to request that you will send me, at as early a day as practicable, an estimate of the expenses of the New Orleans Branch for 1841.

R. M. P.

Daniel Bradford, Esq.
Supt. Br. Mint
New Orleans.

RG104 Entry 11

Treasury Department
Sept. 16. 1839.

Sir,

The enclosed letter received from Jacob Barker Esq. is referred to you at his request.

A letter received from Dr. Hoot this morning, dated the 8th instant contains the melancholy information of the death of Mr. Tyler the coiner of the Br. Mint at N. Orleans.

I will thank you to recommend a suitable successor.

after due enquiry.

I remain very Respy
Your Obedt. Svt
Levi Woodbury
Sec. of the Treas.

Dr. R. M. Patterson
Philad.

RG104 Entry 11

Mint U.S.
Sept. 18/39.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 15th inst.

On first receiving the sad intelligence of the death of Mr. Tyler, I was in despair as to the possibility of supplying his place satisfactorily. I now think, however, that ~~any efforts to find a suitable under~~ it is in my power to name a very suitable individual for the office, in the person of Mr. Philo B. Tyler, a brother of the ~~deceased~~ late Coiner.

Mr. Philo B. Tyler is ~~an excellent~~ a scientific and practical mechanic, known to me personally, and whom I highly respect. He was for some time engaged, in this Mint, in making drawings of machinery, being an excellent draughtsman. He was also employed, for a short time, in the New Orleans Mint under his brother, and is believed to be acquainted with the usual operations of the Coining department. He is

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resident of New Orleans, and now holds the responsible situation of ~~Chief~~ Engineer of the New Orleans and Nashville Rail Road, having, as I am informed, the charge both of the road and of the engines. He has passed the ordeal of the yellow fever, and is acclimated.

He is warmly recommended to me by Mr. Matthias W. Baldwin, the head of the largest machine engine factory in this place. He is also recommended by Jacob Barker Esq. of New Orleans. I will ask for recommendations from ~~the~~ his present employers of the Nashville Rail Road, and from some gentlemen here who have been on other occasions and I will forward these documents to you.

I am, as yet, unable to furnish any name to you for the place of Master of Refining, in the event (which I anticipate) of Mr. Hastings not proving to be an eligible candidate.

To Hon. Levi Woodbury, Sec. of Treasury

R. M. P.

The order of Mr. Bradford to Mr. Taylor, of Aug. 31st, of which Mr. Baker sent you a copy, and which you have transmitted to me with Mr. Baker's letter, does not state me as an inspector now. It shows a most disordered state of things, however, for such a formal order to have been necessary, for so trifling a purpose as "rolling-room and boiler-room" are usual terms for an officer or workman about the Mint; and, if it was necessary that the corresponding rooms at the New Orleans Mint should be opened to give a passage to the roof, there could be no impropriety in the act, though there may have been a want of delicacy and policy in the time and the manner of executing it.

R. M. P.

To Hon. Levi Woodbury, Sec. of Treasury.

RG104 Entry 11

(Confidential.)

Mint U. S.
Sept. 16th, 1839.

Dear Sir,

It was with feelings of the most sincere sorrow that I received the melancholy intelligence of your brother's death. He was a skilful and accomplished mechanician, a faithful officer, and a most estimable and upright man. Shall we deplore his loss, which is also keenly felt by his numerous friends here.

In thinking of a suitable successor to your lamented brother, my attention has been turned to yourself, and I feel every disposition to recommend you for the appointment. Are you disposed to undertake the duties of the place? If so, I must beg you to send me, without delay, a recommendation from the Officers of the Nashville Rail Road Company, with which you are at present connected, and any other document of the same character which you may think important. Do if Mr. ~~Gov~~ Martin Gordon is ac-

RG104 Entry 11

quainted with you, ~~his~~ a letter from him would be of great weight.

By writing to any of your friends of the Humboldt Institute, you can procure suitable accommodations here, and they would be delighted.

Let no time be lost in answering this letter.

I pray you to present my kindest regards to Mrs. Tyler, ~~the honorable~~ ~~sincere sympathy~~ in her afflictions I sincerely sympathize. I ~~from~~ saw her three daughters on the night that I received the intelligence of their father's death; but I could not tell them that they were orphans. They are neither kind friends here. As to Mrs. Tyler and her sons, ~~I hope that~~ she will remain in the West until her state is put quite that no difficulty will be made to their remaining ~~at~~ at the West ~~here~~ until a ~~daughter~~ Course is appointed; ~~and, if you should be that person above, I am sure that you will be~~ ~~welcomed from them~~ This was for the future may, I hope, be advantageously effected by the measures proposed in this letter.

If you will do the propriety of avoiding to make mention of my name in connexion with your being a candidate for the office of Crier, ~~if you shall~~

Very respectfully
Your faithful servant
R. M. P.

To
Philo B. Tyler, Esq.
New Orleans.

RG104 Entry 11

Dear Sir,

I expected to have seen a notice of the death of Mr Taylor extracted from the New Orleans Papers, but as yet none has appeared in the papers I read. If this has not been done, will you please send one to some of our papers for publication

Yours Very Respectfully
M W Baldwin

Thursday 9th

RG104 Entry 11

Mint of the U. S.
Sept. 19. '39.

My dear Sir,

It is with feelings of sincere sorrow that I learn the death of our excellent friend Mr. Tyler. He was a faithful officer and a most estimable man. He was well known & highly valued here, and his loss is universally deplored.

You truly remark that it will be difficult to supply the place thus unhappily rendered vacant in your Mint, — yet the attempt must be made. My attention has been turned, for this object, to Mr. Tyler's brother Philos. He is warmly recommended by several gentlemen here, in whose judgment I have confidence, and my own personal acquaintance with him induces me to favor his claims. Will you do me the favor to inform me what is Mr. Philos B. Tyler's standing in New Orleans? He is in the employment of the Directors of the Nathez Rail Road. What is their opinion of him? After you have made the necessary inquiries, please to state to me, in confidence, your own views as to his eligibility for the vacant office. I know that the government has great confidence in your judgment, and I need not say that your opinions will always have great weight with me.

Excuse, dear Sir, with sincere regard.

Your friend &c

Signed, R. M. Patterson

To Martin Gordon Esq.
New Orleans.

RG104 Entry 11

Mint of the United States,
Sept. 23. 1839.

Sir,

As I presume that Mr. Bradford is still absent from New Orleans, I send the above bill of lading to your address. Box No. 1 contains a set of Troy weights for your Treasurer's office, made at Washington, by Mr. Hassler, and adjusted at this Mint. Box No. 2 contains the Assayer's rolls which you requested Mr. Nixon to procure for you.

Mr. Abraham Miller has presented us a bill for an Assayer's furnace &c. which he says was ordered by you directly of him. On his presenting your letter, the bill shall be paid; but I must beg to refer you to the remark made in my letter to you of the 20th, as to the course which it is desirable to have pursued as to orders to be paid for here.

Very respectfully,

R. M. P.
Dir.

To Dr. Wm. P. Hort,
Assayer Pr. Mint,
New Orleans.

(With Bill of Lading No. 47.)

RG104 Entry 11

(Confidential.)

Mint of the United States,
Philadelphia, Sept. 24, 1837.

Sir,

Mr. Riddell has just shewn me a copy of a letter which you wrote to him in consequence of the application made to you by Mr. Cresmacht respecting a suitable person to fill the vacant office of Melter & Refiner in the New Orleans Mint. In your letter you name your fellow-passenger Dr. J. L. Riddell, and the place which he occupies and the character which you give of him certainly point him out as a fit person candidate for the office. I now write to you to ask if you have ascertained whether you find he is disposed to undertake the duties of the office; and, if he be, to beg that the recommendations of some influential men may be obtained. I wish also to learn whether he is a political partizan, or is favorable to the present administration. This might not, indeed,

RG104 Entry 11

to be made an essential condition, but it would be an imputation to pretend that it is not a desirable one with such of us as are acting on that side. I should say much desire to have the opinion of Mr. Martin Gordon as to the propriety of Dr. Riddell's appointment, if this matter is to go forward, I will pray you to see Mr. Gordon, and ask him to write to me.

If Dr. Riddell should be appointed it will probably be necessary that he ~~sh~~ spend some time at this port, to obtain a practical acquaintance with the duties of the office.

I think it probable that matters could be so arranged as to ~~bal~~ make the place in the Mint not incompatible with the professorship in your Medical College.

P. M. P.

To Dr. James Jones
Professor Medical College
New Orleans

Mint of the United States,
Sept. 24. 1839.

Dear Sir,

I learn, by a letter from Prof. Jones, of your Medical College, to Mr. Slidell that he recommends his colleague Dr. Riddell for the place of Melter & Refiner in the New Orleans Mint. Let me pray you to inquire into the suitableness of this nomination, and to write to me freely respecting it. At Mr. Slidell's suggestion, I have written to Dr. Jones.

I had intended also to write to Dr. Short, (Mr. Bradford being absent,) but I will beg you, as I presume you are now in place, to consult with him, in my name, on this important question.

Very respectfully
Truly yours,
(Signed) R. M. Patterson

To
H. C. Cammack, Esq.

RG104 Entry 11

Mint of the United States,
Sept. 26th, 1839.

Sir,

You have referred to me a letter from Jacob Barker Esq., dated New-Orleans, Sept. 14th, 1839, and mentioning proceedings ~~with regard to~~ of Mr. Bradford and Dr. Hall, with regard to the of the Mint machinery, which he considers improper ~~and~~ in themselves, and prompted by a bad spirit. On the matter I have to remark, that, without a knowledge of the whole circumstances it would be impossible to judge whether the conduct of the officers in question was proper in this case or otherwise; while there can be no doubt of their perfect ~~rights~~ legal authority to act as they have done. I ~~have~~ claim no right myself to interfere in the direct government of the men at the Branch Mints. It may be proper to mention, here, that the man discharged by Dr. Hall was employed by Mr. Taylor, under an order from the superintendent, of which I have

RG104 Entry 11

the original now before me. It is dated Aug. 31st, and is as follows — "Sir, I hereby direct that you employ such man or men as may be requisite to keep the machinery in your department in proper order till the 1st of November next."

P. M. P.

To Hon. Levi Woodbury,
Sec. of Treasury.

RG104 Entry 11

Mint U. S.
Sept. 26 / 37.

Sir, I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 23d inst., with the enclosed letter from Jacob Barker Esq. recommending Joseph M. Kennedy Esq., of New Orleans, as a suitable person for the office of Superintendent of the Branch Mint at that place. This recommendation is not new to me — I have had made ~~and~~ inquiry respecting the qualifications of Mr. Kennedy, of Mr. Nicholl and Mr. Cammack, and the conviction on my mind is that a more eligible candidate could not be found for the office of Superintendent of the New Orleans Mint; if, on an examination of the reports on the ~~sub~~ investigation at that Mint, it shall be the opinion of the President as yet, that the public interests require that Mr. Bradford should be superseded.

The report of Mr. Nicholl is detained until I can satisfy myself with regard to a question affecting the standing of the Assayer, and which, in

RG104 Entry 11

it involved matters which Mr. Riddle could not be expected to understand, ~~but have~~ he has declined giving an opinion.

I have received, through Mr. Riddle, a recommendation, by Dr. Jones of the Navy, of ~~Prof~~ Dr. J. L. Riddell, Professor of Chemistry in the Medical College at this place, for the office made vacant by the death of Mr. Maxwell. ~~I have written to and particular for the~~ I have written to Mr. Jones for more particular information as to Dr. Riddell's qualifications.

R. M. P.

To/ Hon. Levi Woodbury,
Sec. of Treasury.

RG104 Entry 11

Mint of the United States.
Sept. 26th, 1839.

Dear Sir,

~~I have received~~ Your letter of the 14th inst., to the Secretary of the Treasury has been referred by him to me, and I have written to him on the subject.

At your request, I send herewith Mr. Bradford's instructions to Mr. Tyler, of the 31st of August.

Yours

R. M. P.

Your letter of the 8th inst. was communicated to the friends of Mr. Maxwell, who promised to take, immediately, the steps suggested by you.

Jacob Barker, Esq.

Enclosing a letter of David Bradford to Peter Tyler, dated Aug. 31. 1839; and a note of Philip B. Tyler to Mr. Barker, dated Sept. 7. 1839. of which the Copies are on file with letter from Secy. of Treas. Sept. 18th.

RG104 Entry 11

Mint of the U. S.,
Sept. 28th, 1859.

Sir,

Mr. Wm. E. DuBois, the Assistant Assayer of this Mint, goes to Washington, at the request of Mr. Barker & Mr. Miller, to give explanations regarding the Branch Mint accounts. He very properly desires to pay his respects to the Head of the Department, and I therefore take the liberty of introducing him to you.

Mr. DuBois takes with him a part of the papers connected with the New Orleans investigation, which it would be difficult to transmit to you by mail, and of which I have a copy.

Very respectfully,
Your friend
(Signed) R. M. Patterson

To
Hon. Lewis Woodbury,
Sec. of Treas.

RG104 Entry 11

To the Officers of the U. S. Branch Mint at New Orleans

Gentlemen

The undersigned Citizens of Philadelphia Respectfully beg leave to recommend to your favourable consideration Peter Keating, for an appointment in your institution for any post at your disposal, requiring industry integrity and robust health to perform, all of which requisites we beg leave to bear testimony will be found possessed by Mr Keating whose appointment will greatly gratify

1839 Sept. 30th

Gentlemen, Your friends

Samuel D. Patterson
Samuel Potter
[illegible]
James Page
Wm English
William Powell

L. Poynter
John Thompson
[illegible]
Isaac H. Myers

RG104 Entry 11

Treasurer's Office
United States Branch Mint
New Orleans 30th Sept 1839

Sir

Enclosed herewith I hand you my Bond for $20000 – conditioned for the faithful and diligent performance of the duties of Treasurer of this Branch Mint.

The Sureties are,

Thomas Banks	Beverly Chew
William M. Beal	James H. Caldwell

and annexed to the bond is a certificate of their sufficiency, signed by the Hon. F. H. Lawrence, Judge of the U. S. District Court, to whom I applied in consequence of the absence of the Jurors, the representative of the U. S. District Attorney – The oath of Office required under the 3d Section is also enclosed.

I am,
Respectfully
Yours faithfully
A. G. Cammack
Treasurer

To
Dr R. M. Patterson
Director of the U. S. Mint
Philadelphia

RG104 Entry 11

Dr. Branch Mint of the United States New Orleans Cr

1839			Dolls	cts	1839			Dolls	cts
Sept	30	To Gold Bullion purchased for Coinage for 3008. 220 oz. Standard Gold in the hands of the Treasurer	55.966	51	Sept.	30	By M. de Lizardi & Co for Gold & Silver deposits due them	792	34
"	"	Silver Bullion purchased for Coinage for 3641b. 12 oz. Standard Silver in the hands of the Treasurer	65.648	19	"	"	" J. H. Lachaise & Co do do do	73304	89
"	"	The Coiner his account of Gold for 2794. 483 oz Stand. Gold to be accounted for by him	51.990	28	"	"	" The Louis. State Bank 1 Silver deposit due them	206	17
"	"	The Coiner his account of Silver for 27666. 10 oz Stand. Silver to be accounted for by him	32.123	81	"	"	" C. D. Kyle & Co 1 do	1114	48
"	"	The Melter & Refiner his account of Gold for 132. 100 oz Standard Gold	2.462	53	"	"	" W. A. Cook 1 Gold	231	95
"	"	The Melter & Refiner his account of Silver for 12.001 oz. Standard Silver	13.965	38	"	"	" Felix Olivarez Gold & Silver deposits due them	9.077	41
"	"	Gold Coinage for balance of this account	33.23		"	"	" J. Cordero do do	1.552	76
"	"	Octave Fossall, for do do	2.186	34	"	"	" Antoine Mazier do do	1.974	00
"	"	Contingent Expenses of the Branch Mint for balance of this account	12.256	21	"	"	" N. D. Coffman 1 Gold deposit	56	83
					"	"	" John Collins 1 Silver do	944	29
					"	"	" Raoul Crime 1 do	105	75
					"	"	" Erasmus Legrosette 1 do	100	37
					"	"	" J. Felix 1 do	100	20
					"	"	" F. de Lizardi & Co Gold & Silver deposits	1411	01
					"	"	" Johnston & Co 1 Silver deposit	3176	64
					"	"	" John Nicholson, Cashier Carrollton Bank for Gold deposits due them	3628	12
					"	"	" Commercial Ins. Co. Silver	172	36
					"	"	" The Treasurer of the United States for balance of this account	134.400	00
					"	"	" Profit & Loss do do	477	41
			236.626	95				236.626	95

Branch Mint of the United States, New Orleans
Treasurers Office, Sept. 30th 1839

Mint U.S. Phil. Oct. 3. '39.

Sir,

I have to thank you for your letter of the 23d ult., which I have just rec'd. The information which you convey shall be held strictly confidential.

S. Matthews, Esq.
Pres. W. Marine Ins. Co.
New Orleans.

R. Mint.

Mint U.S.
Phil. Oct. 3. '39.

Sir, I have rec'd yr. communication of the 22d ult., for wh. I am very grateful to you. The information conveyed to me is of great importance, & your confidence shall not be betrayed.

R. Mint.

J. W. Lacharie, Esq.
New Orleans.

RG104 Entry 11

New Orleans. Octob 7th 1839.

Sir

A professional visit to a sick relative in the Other side of the Lake delays my reply to your hospitable accommodation of the 28th of September. It will be out of my power to under direct & satisfactorily answer to all your queries until the return of Dr Biddle which cannot take place before the twelfth of this month.

I am certain that he will be disposed to conduct the duties of the office because he has frequently expressed a wish to know that of assayer. This I am informed will be equally valuable & more naturally lead to the other.

Of Dr Biddle's political sentiments I have no knowledge. He must speak for

RG104 Entry 11

kindly. I am inclined to believe that he votes for the democratic candidate at the last congressional election.

If the Gordons recommendation be indispensable, the candidate can probably get it himself or his friends. I can readily procure other names much more desirable here & equally influential at Washington. (Not knowing the Gy. myself)

As I have been the cause of some trouble to you in this affair I will communicate to you whatever intelligence I receive on the 12th by the arrival of the S. P. Columbia. The general abuse of our citizens will prevent any further recommendation for naval writers. Trusting sir that what I science may avail in the power of our colleague the same destination in part, I am

fully, respectfully to you. I remain with great consideration

Your obedt Servt.

James Jones.

To

Lt. R. M. Patterson.
Superintendent of the
Mint of the United States
Philadelphia

RG104 Entry 11

From
Dr. James Jones.
Prof. Med. Coll.
New Orleans.
Oct. 7. 1839
Recd " 22. "

PAID

R. M. Patterson.
Superintendent of the U.S. Mint
Philadelphia

NEW ORLEANS
OCT 8

RG104 Entry 11

New Orleans 7 October 1839

Dr. A. M. Patterson Director U. S. Mint

Sir,

When circumstances induced a large portion of the citizens of New-Orleans to believe that the place of Melter & refiner in the branch mint in this city would become vacant, I announced my self as a candidate for this place. without my taking any other step, a memorial was forwarded to his Excellency Martin Van Buren in my favour signed by the most respectable citizens of both parties giving the most substantial evidence that I possessed the confidence of my fellow citizens and affording a pledge to the government of my ability to fill the office. The death of Mr. Maynard has created the anticipated vacancy but my appointment has been opposed by a cabal of the enemies of the administration.

I have been informed that charges have been brought against me by persons who are unacquainted with me. I have therefore respectfully to request you that I may be made acquainted with the nature of those charges & the names of the individuals who have slandered me.

This is the first time in my life that my character has been assailed & it is because I am strong enough to prevent it unassailed that I make you the above request.

With great respect,

I remain

your obedient servant.

[illegible]

RG104 Entry 11

Branch Mint of the United States
New Orleans Oct 8th 1839.

Dr. R M. Patterson
Director Mint

Dear Sir

Your of the 15th ult. came to hand when I was sick with the fever and was not given to me until I was convalescent. I was informed however that Mr Cammack had applied to the President of the Nashville Rail Road Company for the recommendation you requested and had sent it to you. I have not yet been able to go out or I could no doubt procure such recommendation as would give you entire satisfaction. Mr. Gordon by is well acquainted with me and has more than once given me his good advice. When it was first suggested to me by Mr Beckham to apply for the situation of Coiner of this Mint I had not fully considered the subject and I was so much engaged with my late Brother's estate and in arranging for the comfort of his family, that I had not been able to determine previous to my departure in what course to pursue. But on receiving the suggestions of my friend Mr Baldwin (whose advice I always look for in such cases) I have thought it a matter of much importance under our present circumstances that I should

apply for the situation before mentioned. I feel perfectly competent for the task, and believe I perform many a duty very which would prove beneficial to the Government. Previous to my Brothers death I had made arrangements with workmen whom I had tried faithfully to supply the places of those who had died in his department. Perhaps it is known to you, that I was engaged in this kind several months with my Brother, in arranging the machinery & putting it into operation in the first start. I have since been with him frequently when any difficulties occurred with the machinery, so that I have at all times been fully acquainted with the duties of his department. Should I be favoured with the appointment, my friends & those who have interested themselves in behalf of the family, may rest assured that my conduct will be such as to merit the confidence they have placed in me. Should the ~~appointment~~ situation be given to another, I have no doubt that with such friends as have shown themselves in this case, I shall be successful in some other business, which will enable me to support my late Brothers family. I have written to Mr Baldwin to procure such recommendations as he can of my friends in Phila. which I hope will be acceptable to you. Mrs Lyons is gaining her strength gradually; she looks upon her prospects with better cheer than she did, believing that her friends will not forget her. The family are all well. Mr Cammack has been very kind to me during my sickness. I have just received a note from him, informing me that an order of the board of Robbs was issued for raising the scale of the lower mills &c. requesting me to let him know the earliest time at which my health would enable me to attend to it — the weather is now bad.

Very Respectfully your Humble Servant

Philip Taylor

P.S. You would favor the J. Institute, by saying to Mr Hamilton that the reason his draft for some books was protested, was because he made a mistake in the name writing it E.J. Forestall instead of E.J. Forestall & Co. as should have written it. When the correction is made there will be no for the difficulty. My late Brother requested me to state as above just before he died. P.T.

RG104 Entry 11

Mint of the U. S.
Oct. 11. 1839.

Sir,

I have the honor to send you herewith the Bond of Homer C. Cammack as Treasurer of the Branch Mint at New Orleans, and which appears to me to be perfectly satisfactory. The sufficiency of the sureties is certified by the Judge of the District Court of the United States, in consequence of the absence of the Attorney General and of his representative Mr. Guyot.

Mr. Cammack's oath of office is also herewith enclosed.

Very respectfully,
Your faithful servant,
(signed) R. M. Patterson,
Director.

To
Hon. Levi Woodbury,
Sec. of Treasury.

RG104 Entry 11

Treasury Department
October 11. 1839.

Sir,

As the day is near at hand, on which it is proposed to resume operations at the Branch Mint at New Orleans, it is desirable that the vacancies in that institution should be filled as soon as practicable - viz:- that of Coiner, and Melter and Refiner -

I beg to call your attention to this subject, and to request that you will, as soon as you have come to any conclusion ~~[illegible]~~, present to the Department the names of such persons as are best qualified to fill those offices, that the commissions may be at once issued.

I remain very Respy
Your Obedt. Sr

Levi Woodbury
Sec. of the Treasury

P. S. I should be glad to have your views as to the subject of changing the superintendent - & to have all the recommendations that have been sent to you concerning any of these offices.

L. W.

Dr. R. M. Patterson
Director of the Mint
Philadelphia

RG104 Entry 11

Branch Mint N.O. 15 Feb 1839

Sir,

Having been requested by Mr Bradford to furnish you with the estimate for the expenses of this Branch Mint for the year 1840, I have consulted with Mr Cammack, & we are of opinion that this Branch will require $60.000 – to wit:

For Officers & Clerks	$ 12.900	
" Workmen	22.000	
" Contingent Expenses	20.000	
" Wastage	5.100	$60.000-

The amount for contingent expenses exceeds that of the present year, because we shall probably have to increase the night guard very shortly, & during the Winter. Desperate attempts have been made to burn some of the Southern Cities, & there is evidence that a gang of incendiaries has reached this City from Mobile, which they have nearly destroyed. Great alarm exists here & the guards are every where doubled –

Very respectfully
Your Ob Svt
Wm P. Foot Ap.

D.K. Patterson
Director U.S. Mint
Philadelphia

RG104 Entry 11

Memorandum of Silver & Gold Coins received for assaying, from 20th February 1837 to 12th October and which have been enclosed in a Box for the purpose of being remitted to Dr. H. All Patterson, Director of the U. S. Mint, for the annual assay, viz

Date	Dimes	½ Dimes	¼ Dolls	½ Eagles		Dolls	cts
1837							
Feby 20	1 2						20
" "	1 1	1					15
" 22	1 4						40
" 26	1 8						80
March 8	23					2	30
" 15		4					20
" 23		9					45
April 6			7			3	50
" 9		4					20
" 12	5						50
" 16		12					60
" 20			4			2	00
" 23	1						10
" 30	9						90
May 9	6						60
" 13		10					50
" 21		6					30
" 29		11					55
" 29	3						30
" "		20				1	00
Carried forwd	62	77	11			15	55

RG104 Entry 11

Date		Dimes	Eagles	Dolls	Eagles		Dolls	cts
Bot forw[d]		62	77	11			15	55
June	7	6						60
"	15	10					1	00
"	"		4					20
"	18	11					1	10
"	21	11					1	10
July	10	15					1	50
"	16	10					1	00
"	25		5					25
August	1			3			1	50
"	9				8		20	00
"	19			2			1	00
Oct.	11			3			1	50
"	12		6					30
		124	92	19	8		46	90

2725
24 60
1
4769

46.90
35
4125

2725
24 60
1
4769

2725
20
11 35
5
4125

RG104 Entry 11

Treasury Department
October 15. 1839

Sir

The President has, this day, directed the following appointments to be made of Officers of the Branch Mint at N. Orleans. Vizt.
Joseph M. Kennedy to be Superintendent, in the place of Mr. Bradford — superseded.
Dr. John S. Riddle to be Melter & Refiner and
Philos B. Tyler to be Chief Coiner —
The Commissions will be made out and transmitted to New Orleans as soon as practicable - and I will thank you to give the necessary instructions to the Officers appointed in relation to their duties & the manner of keeping their accounts &c

I remain very Respy
Your Obedt. Servt
Levi Woodbury

Sec. of the Treas.

OVER.

RG104 Entry 11

P.S. I transmit herewith an extract from the account of Thos. H. Parker Consul at the U.S. at Antwerp shewing the cost of the Belgian Coins transmitted by him to the Mint.

RG104 Entry 11

Mint U. S.
Oct 17/39

Sir, I have the honor to send you herewith a letter from the President of the N. O. Mint, in answer to inquiries which I made of him respecting the nomination of Dr. Riddell as Melter & Refiner, in the place of the late Mr. Marcotte. The opinion in favor of the nominee, expressed by Dr. Hart I think of great importance, as, with his cordial aid, and with the help of experienced workmen, it is possible that the new officer might enter upon his duties without the necessity of first visiting this mint.

R. M. P.

Hon. Levi Woodbury,
Sec. of Treasury.

RG104 Entry 11

Mint, N. J.
Oct. 18/39.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt, this evening, of your letter of the 16th, announcing the new appointments, made by the President, for the New Orleans Mint.

~~I shall write immediately to the gentlemen selected.~~

I shall submit to the gentlemen appointed, and will give them the necessary instructions, as you direct.

~~Yours very truly~~

I have also to acknowledge the receipt of the accounts of Thos. H. Pearce, U.S. Consul at Antwerp, for the Belgian Coin transmitted by him to the Mint.

R. M. P.

~~The Hon.~~ Levi Woodbury,
~~Sec. of Treasury.~~

It may be proper to mention that the legal title for the Chief is "Coiner" and not "Chief Coiner."

RG104 Entry 11

Mint U.S.
Oct. 18th, 1839.

Sir,

A letter which I have received to-night, from the Secretary of the Treasury, informs me that the President has confirmed on you the appointment of Coiner of the Branch Mint at New Orleans.

I address you that this selection gives me great satisfaction, as I am convinced that you will fill the place of your lamented brother, with skill and fidelity.

Your associates will be Prof. M. Heusinsky Esq as Superintendent, Dr. Hoot as Assayer, and Dr. Riddell as Melter and Refiner.

I will write to you again tomorrow, and give the necessary instructions as to your course on taking office.

Very respectfully,
Your faithful Servant,
R. M. Patterson,
Director

To/
Philip B. Tyler, Esq.
New Orleans.

RG104 Entry 11

Mint U. S.
Oct. 18 / 39.

Sir,

A letter just received from the Secretary of the Treasury announces to me your appointment as Melter & Refiner of the Branch Mint at New Orleans.

I have (as it is late at night) only time now to give you this information, and to express my gratification at the appointment. I am satisfied that it will conduce to the benefit and credit of the Mint.

I will write to you again tomorrow, and give some more any instructions as to the course to be pursued by you in the event of your acceptance, which I hope may not be withheld.

I am, with great respect,
Your faithful Servant
R. M. Patterson,
Director.

Your associates will be Jno. A. Kennedy Esq., as Superintendent, Dr. W. P. Hort as Assayer, and Philo B. Taylor Esq., as Coiner.

(Sd)
Dr. John L. Riddell.
New Orleans.

RG104 Entry 11

Mint U.S.
Oct. 18, 1839.

Sir,

A letter just received from the Secretary of the Treasury announces to me your appointment as Superintendent of the Branch Mint at New Orleans, in the place of David Bradford Esq., and states that the your Commission will be made out and transmitted to you as soon as practicable. I address you that this the appointment gives me ~~great satisfa~~ much gratification, as I am satisfied, from the character which I have heard of you, from many sources, that you will fill the station with fidelity and dignity.

Your new associates will be Dr. John L. Riddell, as Melter & Refiner, and Mr. Philos B. Tyler as Coiner. Dr. Hurt will retain his place as Assayer.

It is now night, I will write to you again tomorrow, and give you instructions as to your bond &c.

I am, Sir, with great respect,
Your faithful Servant
R. M. Patterson,
Director.

To/ Joseph M. Kennedy, Esq.
New Orleans.

RG104 Entry 11

RG104 Entry 11

Mobile Ala.
Oct. 19th, 1839.

Sir,

I send herewith a form of the bond to be given by yourself and the other newly appointed officers. ~~Will you do me the fav~~ The amount of the bond will be the same for all; and I deem it sufficient for the office in question, although the sum required of the Treasurer was $20,000. As ~~it~~ to ~~the Superintendent~~ yourself, ~~the~~ bond would seem to be unnecessary ~~, as in the Case with Mr. Lud~~ in as much as you have no pecuniary trust reposed in you: the law, however, requires that you give one.

I will pray you to do me the favor to see Dr. Riddell and Mr. Tyler, and give them the use of your form for their bonds.

You will please to have the subscribing of the sureties certified by the ~~Dist~~ U.S. District Attorney, or the gentleman acting in his place.

Another ~~duty to be~~ measure required of you all by the law is to take an oath ~~of office~~ or affirmation before some judge of the United States, or judge of the

superior court or any court of record" you "faithfully and diligently to perform the duties" of your office.

All these papers are to be forwarded to me.

I am prevented from writing to-day to Mr. Riddell and Mr. Taylor, as I had intended; but if you will see them, and communicate to them the contents of this letter, my object in wishing to write to them will be attained.

Send you, by this mail, a copy of the Mint Law.

R. M. P.

To/
Joseph M. Kennedy, Esq
New Orleans.

RG104 Entry 11

Mint U.S.
Philadelphia, Oct 21/39.

Sir,

Your letter dated the 7th inst. was not received until this morning. In reply to it I have to state, that all the papers recommending you to the office of Melter & Refiner of the New Orleans Mint were placed before the President, and, so far as I know and believe, none that in any manner impugned your character. You will have learned, before the receipt of this letter, that the vacant place has been filled by the appointment of Professor Riddell, of the Medical College of New Orleans; but it would be unjust to infer that this selection throws any imputation upon the personal or scientific claims of any other candidate.

R. M. P.

To/
Mr. E. P. Thastour,
New Orleans.

RG104 Entry 11

Philadelphia Oct. 24th 1837

Dear Sir

Superintendent of the U. States Mint

Sir

The bearer is recommended to me by James Veale of this City for a Situation in the Mint of New Orleans. He is to be on hand when you receive this letter — and if I can render any service — Respectfully, Your Obt. Servt.

James Page

RG104 Entry 11

Treasurer's Office U. S. Branch Mint
New Orleans 28 October 1839

Dear Sir

Annexed is copy of a letter which I addressed to Mr Bradford on the 25th. Since that date we have been informed of the new appointments made in the Mint.–

You will observe that we are without money or nearly so, and perhaps it would be well for us to receive a part of what you have in hand belonging to this Branch, of this however, you can judge better than I can, as you well know what has to be paid in Philadelphia for articles to be purchased and sent here.

The late Treasurers Books have at last been brought up by Mr. Wicks, Mr Lasere not having been here for some time, and the Coinage account appears deficient $2149.79 and there is 72.85/100 oz short in the Silver Bullion account.– The Books do not balance by a small difference, an examination will have to be made of them, and if we do not find the error, we will open a new set.– One or two trifling errors, between amount of Certificates issued, and the nett value of deposites, have been corrected. There is, one, however, about which I am

RG104 Entry 11

at a loss. Manuel Torres on 1st August deposited Bullion valued at $125.37. a Certificate was issued for $153.92. was paid on the 8th the difference stands to his debit.

Mr Smiley I understand has gone to Texas and I have been informed that his family intend to pay the balance of the Coinage account, as soon as the amount can be satisfactorily ascertained.

I am very respectfully
Your most truly
H. C. Cammack
Treasurer

"Copy"

Treasurers Office U. S. Branch Mint,
New Orleans 25th Oct. 1839

Dear Sir

I have to day received from William Selden Esq. Treasurer of the United States, a Treasury draft for Twelve thousand dollars, drawn on this Mint, and transmitted for the use of the Contingent fund, in conformity to your request made in August last. More than this sum having been already used out of the Bullion account, to defray Contingent expenses, by the late Treasurer, I doubt if it would be proper to use this draft except towards replacing that sum, even if there were Coins enough in the Mint to pay it, which, however, is not now the case.

We have in the Office now, in the Contingent fund, only $224. Two, which sum is not sufficient to pay the expenses of this month, which will be due in a few days. I will be glad to have your instructions and advice on the points alluded to, and remain

very respectfully
Yours very truly
Signed H. C. Cammack
Treasurer

To
David Bradford Esq
Superintendent U. S. Branch Mint
N. Orleans

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R. M. Patterson Esqre

Sir,

Allow me to make my acknowledgements to you for the satisfaction you express, at my having received from the President, the office of Superintendent of the U. S. Branch Mint in this City, and to state, that no exertion shall be wanting, on my part, to realize your expectations in relation to the fulfillment of my duties.

I have, in accordance with your request, shewn your last letter to Mr. Tyler as well as the bond which it enclosed. Dr. Riddell, who has been absent I believe during the whole Summer, is expected to return in the course of this week. I will on his arrival, make the same communication to him.

My own bond, together with the certificate of the Acting District Attorney and my oath of office, I will transmit to you in a day or two.

Very respectfully
Your faithful Servant
J. G. McKennan

N. Orleans Oct 29.th 1839.

RG104 Entry 11

Notes on the Melter & Refiner's Account of Silver

	Ounces, &c	Dollars, &c
I. The first credit is "By Silver Bullion" This consists of	179,795 40	209,216 46"
1st. Actual return of Silver Bullion by the Melter & Refiner, from Oct. 1 to Dec. 31, 1844 as stated in the Account rendered by the Treasurer to the Department, Dec. 31st, 1844,	179,544 01	208,889 02
2d. The cost of smelting 30 cwt of sweep (@ $7.50 per cwt) left by the late Melter & Refiner. This sweep was charged to the present M. & R. at its gross value: it should have been charged at its net value. It is proposed therefore to relieve him from the cost of smelting. From the "Summary" sent by the Auditor the would seem to have been done by taking the amount from Ordinary Expenses a/c. Now if this account goes with it, it must go into the M. & R.'s hands, & must be presented by him to the Treasurer in the shape of Silver Bullion. It would then be properly included in the above credit —	193 36	225 00
3d. The "Silver Coinage" stated in the "Summary" was from the Auditor to have been received from the M. & R. to balance his a/c. This also must be in the shape of Bullion, as it is to balance a Bullion a/c	85 03	102 44
Making, as above,	179,795 40	209,216 46

II. The second credit in the same account (in red ink) is intended as a substitute for the same amount included in the first credit, as stated above (I. 2d) and is made upon the assumption that the Wastage of the late M. & R. will bear this increase, & still be within legal limits. — From the Profit & Loss Account

Notes continued.

	Ounces, &c	Dolls. &c
of New Orleans Br. Mint, Oct. 31, 1839, it appears that the late M. & R., Mr. Maxwell's Silver Account was credited by "Allowance in finalizing of a Account of the Superintendent No. 2, for Wastage on 306,212 oz. Silver Bullion delivered him from Jan. 1 to Aug. 31, 1839, inclusive, and sweeps and alley in gold,	513 75	597 82
Now the sweep left by Mr. Maxwell was 3000 lbs. 7 millieths fine, =	306 25	356 37
And if the above allowance of 513.75 oz. was not all wastage, but was finally for "sweeps & alley in gold", then, as the sweep was 306.25 oz., the remainder must be Wastage & alley in gold", and is only	207 50	241 46
Still wastage on 306,212 oz. is	612 42	712 63
So that Mr. Maxwell's wastage will bear an increase of	404 92	471 17

Now if the late M. & R., Mr. Maxwell's Account had been credited, (or it should have been) with the net instead of the gross value of his sweep, the difference (193.36 oz.) separately would have been added, to this wastage. In the entry in red ink it is proposed to relieve the present M. & R. Riddell, by doing what should have been done Oct. 31, 39, viz: increasing Mr. Maxwell's wastage, & thus prevent the necessity of calling upon the Ordinary Expenses Account. — It is presumed that the Accounts of Oct. 31, 1839, on file at the Department, will show whether the above view of Mr. Maxwell's wastage is correct.

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1839		To Amount brought forward	962	12
Sept.	30	" Amount transferred to the new Books, being balance of this account	4077	41
		Dollars	5039	53
1839				
Oct.	31	To Allowance made to the Coiner & passed to his Credit in pursuance of a warrant of the Sept. No. 3 for wastage on 4034 oz. 22 dwt. of Gold Bullion delivered to him in Ingots from 1st Jany. to 31st August 1839 inclusive, 2.604 oz. Standard Gold	45	15
"	"	" Allowance made to the Coiner & passed to his Credit in pursuance of a warrant of the Sept. No. 2 for wastage on 341.291 oz. 24 dwt. of Silver Bullion delivered to him in ingots from 1st Jany. to 31st August 1839 inclusive, 155.11 oz. Standard Silver	1.72	17
"	"	" Allowance made to the Melter & Refiner & passed to his Credit in pursuance of a Warrant of the Sept. No. 3 for Wastage on 326.272 oz. Standard Silver delivered to him from 1st Jany. to 31st August 1839 inclusive, & bought & alloy in Gold 313.750 oz. Standard Silver	3.97	52
"	"	" Balance per new Books the opening of our first date	5741	84
		Dollars	9580	46

RG104 Entry 11

Dr Profit and Loss Cr

| | | | Dollars | cts | | |

Rec^d Jan. 23/40

1839		By Amount brought forward			$3109.47½	219 08
May	10	for alloy	for Assayer's report N°158		.25	
"	15	do	" "	159	.32	
"	15	do	" "	161	2.55	
"	23	Separating Gold & alloy	" "	168	21.37	
"	"	do & do	" "	169	10.06	
"	25	Alloy	" "	175	.79	
"	25	do	" "	180	.43	
June	10	Separating Gold & alloy	" "	186	3.24	
"	3	Alloy	" "	196	2.42	
"	17	Separating Gold & alloy	" "	209	5.35	
"	19	do & do	" "	214	6.93	
"	"	do & do	" "	215	3.57	
"	"	do & do	" "	216	2.94	
"	21	Alloy	" "	225	.46	
July	17	do			1.13	
"	26	Separating & alloy			5.14	
"	29	Separating Gold & alloy			52.21	
		Abstracted from Silver purchased				
		do & do			124.74	
	30	do & do			5.19	
August	3	do & do	" "	250	572.15	
"	5	do & do	" "	251	94.78	
"	6	do & do	" "		42.55	
"	"	do & do	" "	252	306.14	
"	"	do & do	" "	253	6.21	
"	"	do & do	" "	254	12.27	
"	"	do & do	" "	255	12.56	
"	"	do & do	" "	274	4.51	
"	7	do & do	" "	275	99.17	
"	14	do & do	" "		3.47	
"	16	Alloy	" "	299	9.41	4585 09
July	31	Excess of Wastage allowed to the Coiner at the settlement of 30th January last, above the actual loss from the commencement both 30th June 1839 as per his a/c 185.79 oz Standard Silver				219 69
August 31		Difference resulting in the following accounts between the addition of Dolls & Cents, and the results of the aggregate weight of Bullion on hand reduced to the same currency, viz.				
		Coiner his account of Silver, difference			5.94	
		Melter & Refiner his a/c of Gold			9.73	15 67
					Dollars	5039 53
1839						
Oct.	31	By Amount transferred from Old Book being balance of this a/c				4077 41
"	"	this amount being excess in Gold Bullion received from the Curator of the Estate of the late Melter & Refiner, over and above the balance standing to his debit in a/c & charged to him to balance a/c				562 99
					Dollars	4640 40

E.E.

Branch Mint of the United States, New Orleans
Treasurer's Office 31st October 1839

H. Drummond
Treas.

RG104 Entry 11

To/ J. R. N.

~~July 28th 1839~~.

OCTOBER 31st 1839

RG104 Entry 11

Treasurer's office U. S. branch Mint

New Orleans 1 Nov 1839

Dear Sir

I wrote to you on the 28th and now have the pleasure of informing you that the books of the Mint have been balanced. The small difference mentioned was discovered to be an error in the addition, which has been corrected. As soon as the accounts can be copied we will forward them to the Secretary of the Treasury. In the mean time I enclose you a copy of the balance sheet for your own satisfaction.

Mr Bradford is in town and tomorrow the necessary warrants will be signed to close the accounts of the late Coiner. and Melter & Refiner.

I am, very sincerely
your most obt
H. C. Cammack
Treasurer

To
Dr. R. M. Patterson
Director U. S. Mint

RG104 Entry 11

RG104 Entry 11

Branch Mint of the United States.
New Orleans Nov 4th 1839.

Dear Sir

Yours of the 22d ult. was received in due time, together with a list of applicants for situations in this Mint.

I had selected the full complement of workmen and submitted a list of their names to the Superintendent, who cheerfully approved of my selection, so that none of those in your list will be required at present.

I have spoken to Mr Kenedy (as you requested) in regard to Mr Johnstons application but not until all the hands were engaged, which saved me the necessity of objecting to his engagement as I knew him to be useless and extremely troublesome. Mr Kenedy will write you his decision on the same subject.

I am happy to inform you that I was fully acquainted with the views of my late brother in relation to the improvement in the coining press as suggested in your letter of the 31st July last, and to do his memory justice (which I see he did not claim in his letter to you) I can state that he had discovered the same improvement some months previous, and had determined on adopting it. I commenced operation on the 1st inst. and the above was the first

work put in hands. —

I fully appreciate your kind advice, and shall endeavor at all times, to understand, and act in accordance with the wishes of the Supt. and to co-operate cheerfully with the other officers of the institution. Though I sincerely regret that from a knowledge of circumstances which have transpired both before & since my brothers death, that I am compelled to believe, that Dr Short will have no opportunity to prejudice the minds of the new officers.

As I have but little knowledge of working gold, I should be pleased with information from you in relation to it, particularly of the use of borax in drawing strips, also of cleaning the planchets &c with any other information which you may deem of importance to me or my department.

My brother informed me previous to his death, that he had coined $20,000. in gold, without the necessity of adjusting a single planchet with the file. This was the result of an improvement in the in the mode of punching.

Very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant.
Philo H. Tyler.
Coiner U.S. Branch Mint

To Dr R. M. Patterson
Director U.S. Mint

RG104 Entry 11

Mint of the United States,
Nov. 4 1839.

Sir,

I have duly received your letter of the 22d ult. Herewith is sent to you a statement of my account of money received and paid out, for expenses of your Branch Mint incurred here during the 3d quarter of 1839; with the necessary receipts as vouchers. You will notice that voucher No. 49 needs the endorsement of Joseph B. Hamstead to make it complete; and as he is still at New Orleans, you can probably obtain it without difficulty. You will see that the balance in our hands is, $2488.87, — the ~~total~~ amount mentioned in your letter ~~of the 22d ult. was~~ $3174.65 having been the balance at the end of the last quarter.

You question, whether the salaries of Mess. Maxwell and Lyles can be allowed up to the end of the quarter in which they died, I am not able to answer; but I will make the inquiry of the Secretary of the Treasury, and let you know ~~the~~ his decision. The claim is certainly just. Whether it may be legal, but doubt it.

RG104 Entry 11

Your bond was sent by me, approved, to the Secretary of the Treasury, on the 11th of October; so that I presume you have received, by this time, the remittance asked for.

As the law is explicit with regard to the allowance of the mints of coin, you cannot let the light dirings pass from the Mint. Whatever may be the inconvenience, the law must be obeyed. I beg also to call your attention to a clause in the 30th sect. of the silver act, which has been neglected, at bottom, at your Mint. It is that "the payments shall be made, if demanded, in the order in which the bullion shall have been brought to the Mint, giving priority according to priority of deposits only." In the face of this express enactment, payments were ~~invariably~~ made, of charge, while old depositors, of long standing, were unpaid, and some even were ejected. I wish, then, that it be understood, that no new depositors are to be paid until all the old ones are paid off.

In an preparing a full communication on the subject of the accounts at your Mint, in consequence of ~~good~~ irregularities found in them as rendered at Washington, this communication I will send to Mr. Kennedy in a short time.

Please not yet hand from any of the new officers, since this approximate.

R. M. P.

To
Horace C. Cammack, Esq.
Treasurer of the Branch Mint
New Orleans.

~~Private~~

RG104 Entry 11

Branch Mint of the U. S.
New Orleans Nov 6. 1839

R. M. Patterson Esq.
Sir

You will receive by this mail my bond, approved by the Acting District Attorney, and also my oath of office - The delay attending my compliance with the requisitions of the law in this respect, has been occasioned, first, by the absence from the City, of the gentleman above mentioned and Secondly, by his indisposition for some days after his return -

I have the honor to be
Very respectfully Yr. obedt. Servt.

J. P. McKennedy
Supt.

RG104 Entry 11

New Orleans. Octob 7th 1839.

Sir

A personal visit to a distant relative on the Other side of the Lake delays my reply to your confidential communication of the 28th of September. It will be out of my power to render direct & satisfactory answers to all your queries until the return of Mr Biddle which cannot take place upon the twelfth of the month.

I am certain that he will be disposed to conduct the duties of the office because he frequently expressed a wish to have that of Cashier. This I can informally state to be equally valuable & may mutually lead to the other.

Of Mr Biddle's political sentiments I have no knowledge. He must speak for

RG104 Entry 11

himself. I am inclined to believe that he was for the democratic candidate at the last congressional election.

If the Gordon recommendation be not practicable, the candidate can probably get it himself on his return. I can easily procure other names much more desirable here & equally influential at Washington. (Not having the p. m. [illegible])

As I have been the cause of some trouble to you in this affair I will communicate to you whatever intelligence is received on the 12th by the arrival of the S. R. Columbia. The general absence of our citizens will prevent any further recommendation for several weeks. Putting his that which & reason may decide in the power of our colleague the same determination in part, so

fully accorded to you. I remain with great consideration

Your obt. Svt.

James Jones.

To

L. R. M. Patterson.

Superintendent of the Mint of the United States

Philadelphia

RG104 Entry 11

RG104 Entry 11

Mint Dept.
Nov. 9 / 39.

Sir,

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 7th, in answer to my inquiry respecting the salaries of the Officers who died at the New Orleans Branch Mint, and have communicated your reply to the Superintendent of that Mint.

I received, this morning, a letter from Joseph M. Kennedy Esq. acknowledging my notice of his appointment as Superintendent of the New Orleans Mint, and signifying his acceptance of the office, ~~and promising~~

Gov. Findlay sends by the mail, his new bond. As this will remove the difficulty as to the remittance asked by me on the 22d ult., may I take the liberty of ~~asking~~ begging that the draft for the amount may not be on the Mint itself. Our deposits is now so near to the minimum requisite for advantageous operation in the Mint, and for securing the certainty of ~~prompt~~ prompt payments, that I hope nothing but absolute necessity may cause it to be refused.

Hon. Levi Woodbury
Sec. of Treasury.

R. M. P.
D.

U. S. Branch Mint
New Orleans Nov 9. 1839

R. M. Patterson Esq.

Sir,

I have just received a note from the Foreman of the Melting & Refiner's department, in which, among other articles to be purchased for the use of that Department, he mentions the following which are not to be procured here

" 2 doz Separating bottles
½ doz glass funnels
3 Copper Siphons (a Porter sign)

You would much oblige me by sending them out as soon as practicable –

I am respectfully
Your obedt. Servant.

J. McKemey
Supt.

RG104 Entry 11

Sir,

The Branch Mint which you have just been placed on, at New Orleans, being now fully re-organized, and about to commence its operations, it becomes a matter of the first importance to have the forms of a highly important to have the various forms of public business, & of accounting, thoroughly understood, & faithfully adhered to, in every department. With this view I beg leave to ask your attention to the following remarks.

On the 25th May. 1835, a letter of full Instructions, on all the business transactions of the Branch Mint, as well as of the Office Director, as between the Mint and the Government, was addressed by me to the Superintt. On other occasions, various blank forms & blank papers were forwarded, corresponding to those instructions, & to the course of business at this Institution. The original letter alone referred to, was brought away by Mr. Slidell, & with other documents of your Branch, is now in possession of the Sec. Treas. I will thank you to ascertain if a copy of that letter has been kept; and if so, to inform me of the fact, that it may be supplied. In the meanwhile, it may be well to recapitulate the various books, & blank papers which you should have, that you may ascertain if any thing is wanting.

I shall speak of them in three divisions:

I. Books of Entry.
1. Of the Treasurer.
2. Of the Assayer.
3. Of the Melter & Refiner.
4. Of the Coiner.

II. Printed Blank forms, bound and unbound.
1. Of the Superintendent.
2. Of the Treasurer.
3. Of the Assayer.

III. Quarterly Abstracts, or Returns, to the Treasury Department.
1. Of the Treasurer
2. Of the Melter & Refiner
3. Of the Coiner

RG104 Entry 11

I. Books of Entry. —

1. Treasurer's Office.

A. Gold Weighing-book, for deposites.

B. Silver do. do.

C. D. Day-Book and Ledger — subsidiary & informal books, in which the weighing-clerk keeps a daily account, by single entry, of all his receipts & deliveries, by weight only.

E. Weighing-book for Gold & Silver ingots & clippings.

F. ~~Gold~~ Register of Gold Deposites.

G. ~~M~~ Do. of Silver do.

H. ~~M~~ Bullion Journal. } Kept by double entry; and giving
I. ~~M~~ Bullion Ledger. } weight and value.

K. Memorandum-Book of assay-coins, & slips, sent to this Mint, and of funds sent to my care, to pay bills on Ordinary Account; & of ~~receipts~~ ~~remarks~~ returns & receipts from hence; being simply a subsidiary Account between your Treasurer & myself, of which no return is made to the Department.

L. ~~M~~. Book of Appropriations — exhibiting the sums appropriated by ~~the~~ Gov.t for the support of the Br. Mint, under the several heads; & the amounts ~~drawn thereon~~ received drawn from time to time.

M. Bill-book, — in which all bills on Ordinary Acc.t are copied.

N. ~~Book~~ A Register of or list of Warrants issued ~~by you~~ by you on Ordinary Account.

O. ~~M~~ Journal of Ordinary Accounts. } Kept by double entry.
P. ~~M~~ Ledger of ~~Ordinary~~ do. —

2. Assayer's Office.

A. Book of Calculations, of the Standard Weight and Value of deposites.

B. Assayer's Register of Gold & Silver deposites.

C. Register of the Assay of Gold & Silver Ingots.

3. Melter & Refiner's Office.

A. Book of Gold Melts; calculations of pots, &c.

B. Do. of Silver do.

C. Weighing-Book of Gold & Silver ingots.

D. Day-Book, of bullion transactions with the Treasurer, the Assayer & Gold & Silver Melt-room.

These are then closed monthly, & being aligned by similar entries of the Treas.r, from the basis of the Superint.t Warrant in the ordinary

E. Leger, exhibiting his account by the monthly warrants; — from this Book, his Quarterly Abstract is taken.

4. Coiner's Office.

A. Weighing-Book of Gold and Silver Ingots & clippings, and Entries of Coins delivered.

B. ~~the~~ Day-Book, in which the several deliveries of ingots & clippings are summed up into monthly aggregates, on which, ~~the Superintendent's Warrant~~ when adjusted by like account of the Treasurer, from the basis of the Superintendent's Warrants in those cases.

The Coins are exhibited in Coinage Warrants, issued monthly or otherwise, as the deliveries may require. — The Corresponding Entries of the Treasurer & Coiner, from the basis for such Warrants.

II. Printed Blank Forms, bound and unbound.

1. Superintendent's Office.

A. Warrants, for the payment of Gold Deposits.

B. Do. for do. Silver do.

C. Do. for the delivery of Gold or Silver dep[osits], in monthly aggregates, ~~[illegible]~~ by the Treasurer, to the Melter & Refiner.

D. Do. for the delivery of Gold or Silver bullion, in clippings ~~monthly~~, Treasurer to the Melter & Refiner, ~~ingots~~ by the ~~Melter & Refiner to the Treasurer~~.

E. Do. for the delivery of Gold or Silver bullion, in ingots, ~~monthly~~ by the M & R to the Treasurer.

F. Do. for the delivery of Gold or Silver bullion, in ingots, by the Treasurer, to the Coiner.

G. Do. for the delivery of Gold or Silver bullion, in clippings, by the Coiner, to the Treasurer.

H. Do. for the delivery of Gold or Silver Coins, by the ~~Coiner~~ to the Treasurer.

I. Do. for the allowance of Wastage of Gold or Silver, to the Melter & Refiner.

K. Do. for the same allowance, to the Coiner.

These Warrants are bound in book form, with margins, & are cut out as they are wanted.

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L. Do. to the Treasurer, authorizing him to draw from the Contingent Fund, to balance the account of Profit & Loss, in Bullion. ——
M. Do. for the payment of bills, on Ordinary Account.
} (see page 3.)

2. Treasurer's Office.

A. Certificates, of Gold deposites.
B. Do. of Silver do.
} Bound.

C. Receipts for Gold Bullion, before Assay.
D. Do. for Silver do. do.
E. Assayer's Reports of Gold which are ~~filled~~ sent to the Assayer by the Treasurer, with the name, of ~~the~~ depositor, number, gross weight, and date; & are received back with the Assayer's Certificate of fineness, ~~and~~ his calculation (in pencil) of the standard weight & value, & his directions for making deductions: all which calculations are verified & entered in the Treasurer's Office. ——
F. Like reports, of Silver.
G. H. Memorandums, or specifications of gold and silver deposites, given to the depositor at the time of paying him, or of delivering him a Certificate.
These are of various sizes, to suit deposites of one or more parcels.
} Not bound.

3. Assayer's Office.

A. Report on the fineness of Gold Ingots.
B. Do. do. Silver do.
} Not Bound.

RG104 Entry 11

Forms for

III. Quarterly Abstracts, or Returns, to the Treasury Department.

1. Treasurer's Office.

A. Account of Gold Bullion.
B. Silver Bullion.
C. Gold Coinage.
D. Silver Coinage.
E. Melter & Refiner's account of Gold, in acc^t with the Treasurer
F. do. account of Silver, do. do.
G. Coiner's Account of Gold, do. do.
H. Do. do. of Silver, do. do.
I. Profit & Loss.
K. Branch Mint at New Orleans. (Balance Sheet.)
L. Account of the Deposits of the Treas^r of the U. S.
L. M. Salaries of Officers & Clerks.
M. N. Incidental & Contingent Expenses.
N. O. Wages of Labourers.
O. P. The United States. (Account Current for Ordinary Expenses.)

2. Melter & Refiner's Office.

A. Treasurer's Account of Gold, in acc^t with Melter & Refiner
B. Do. do. of Silver, do.

3. Coiner's Office.

A. Treasurer's Account of Gold, in acc^t with Coiner.
B. Do. do. of Silver do.

All the foregoing books and papers are indispensable to the right order of ~~the~~ accounting in the Mint, & should any of them be wanting, or should any further information in regard to them be desired, you will have the goodness to ~~inform me of the~~ let me hear from you, on the subject.

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I proceed now to inform you, that the Returns of the N.O. Branch Mint to the Treasury Department, were recently examined at Washington by two Clerks of the Mint, ~~who were sent to Washington~~. Besides the information received through them, I have had additional means of judging as to the condition of the Accounts, by the ~~notes and papers~~ report of the Commissioner, Mr. Riddell, and the accompanying testimony and documents.

From all these sources, I find that the greatest confusion & irregularity has prevailed; first, in keeping the accounts, and ~~then~~ (~~by~~ consequence) in rendering the Returns of them. ~~The Abstracts sent to Washington, ~~[illegible]~~ were not & informal drawn~~ The papers sent to Washington, include some Abstracts for which no form ~~or~~ or direction had been given, & of course, contrary to order; ~~which~~ while others, as important as any, were not sent at all. The settlements were not made quarterly, nor, in one case, did they terminate with a regular quarter; as for instance, the settlement of January 31st 1839.

I had thought of entering into some particulars of the irregularities noted by our clerks; but it now appears to me, that the book will have to be brought up, and the returns rendered, as it ought, ~~[illegible]~~ upon the beginning; that is, if it be practicable to do so. It is ~~especially~~ necessary, at all events, that great pains should be taken to ascertain exactly the ~~exact~~ present accountability of the late officers of the Mint. To this end, the accounts of these officers, ~~should~~ from the commencement of their operations until the period of their duties, should be scrupulously & formally stated, & be reported to the First Auditor at Washington. — Let me here give you a copy of ~~the report of~~ a note of the Accounting clerk in that office; ~~to it they~~ by which you will learn the state of the Bullion Account.

RG104 Entry 11

"The Treasurer of the Branch Mint at New Orleans has rendered a general abstract of Gold & Silver Bullion deposited for coinage from 1st April 1838 to 30 June 1839. amounting to $ 348.406.99 but does not show that any part was coined, as he has rendered no abstract of coinage, nor does he give the amount deposited for coinage in ounces & decimals - he has rendered separate abstracts of Gold & Silver Bullion deposited for coinage for a part of the above period, Gold Bullion from 31st March 1838 to 31st January 1839. in ounces & decimals 2013.094 but not extended in dollars & cents - Silver Bullion from commencement of the operations of the Branch Mint up to 31st Jan.y 1839. 204,525.83 not extended in Dollars & cents - He should render abstracts of Gold & Silver Bullion deposited from commencement of the operations of the Branch Mint in ounces & decimals & extended in dollars & cents -

Abstracts of Gold & Silver coinage from commencement of the operations of the Branch Mint showing the amount and denomination of Coins made, received from the Chief Coiner & paid for deposits -

The Chief Coiner's & Melter & Refiner's accounts with the Treasurer of the Branch Mint showing the amount of Gold & Silver Bullion received from him and coins made and paid him and the balance remaining in their hands of the Chief Coiner & Melter & Refiner -

As the accounts are now stated they cannot be settled at the Treasury - they should

RG104 Entry 11

shew the amount of Bullion received for coinage, the amount coined and paid for deposits & the balance remaining on hand."

~~In addition to the above, I would suggest that, if possible, the accounts be closed to the end of the third quarter of the present year; & the wastage settled to that date, that is, that the 30th September be a mere dividing date between the old and new regime, as proposed.~~

In addition to the above, let me ask your attention to the law, & the instructions based thereon, relative to the settlement of the wastage of the late M & R. and Corner. This wastage will be carried to the debit of Profit & Loss; & as it will doubtless exceed the credit of that account, the balance is to be supplied from the Contingent Fund, by a charge upon Incidental Expenses (and a corresponding credit to the Treasurer of the Br. Mint) for the amount needed, in the Ordinary Books; while, in the Bullion Books, Gold & Silver Coinage will be charged respectively, and Profit & Loss credited, to the same amount.

I have only to add at present, that the surplus of gold, which Mr. Maxwell reported to be in his vault, amounting to 33 $\frac{415}{1000}$ ozs. standard, is to be delivered to the Treasurer; who will charge himself (as Gold Bullion) therewith; & will credit Profit & Loss. It has also been determined to my satisfaction, that ~~the Postall is liable to Messrs. Lizardi & Co.~~ Mr. Maxwell, in the settlement of July 1836, returned to Mr. Postall the item of 8 $\frac{640}{1000}$ ozs. standard gold, as so much more ascertained to be in the silver deposits of Messrs. Lizardi & Co. than was at first reported. This amount has been been settled, & was even credited, to the depositor. Mr. Postall is therefore liable directly to Government (which, in its turn, is liable to Messrs. L & Co.) for that much more than appears in his Accounts. This matter has been thoroughly investigated here, & the above is my deliberate judgment upon it.

RG104 Entry 11

Branch Mint of the U. S.
New Orleans Nov 11. 1839

H. C. Cammack Esquire,

Dear Sir,

I have just rec.d your note, in which you request the following work to be put upon the rooms you are about to occupy in the Mint

" apartments to be painted and white washed,
glass doors to the openings on the South side,
One additional fire place, and
partition in two of the larger rooms.

The magnitude alone, of the expense attending the execution of this work, compels me to refer you to the Director of the Mint at Philadelphia for his consent – To him, you are at liberty to state, at the same time, that I acknowledge the reasonableness of the request, and feel confident, that in my opinion, these alterations and improvements will be necessary to the comfort of yourself and family –

I am very sincerely
Your friend
J. M. Kennedy
Supt.

RG104 Entry 11

R. M. Patterson Esq.

Director U. S. Mint

Phila.

Sir:

In the investigation which I was instructed by you to make into the affairs of the U. S. Br. Mint at Charlotte, I found it necessary to employ the services of a Notary Public to administer oaths to the witnesses, take down the testimony, & prepare the copies thereof. I selected the attendance of Martin Lewis Esq. N. P. accordingly, who served with great attention & fidelity. I have requested him to make out his account & transmit the same to you for approval & settlement, & I have to ask that you will take such measures as may

RG104 Entry 11

be necessary to obtain a treasury warrant or other
authority to the Sums of the annual in question.

I am Sir with great respect
your obt. Sr.

Wanstead 13. Oct. 1839

Thos. Chidell.
M. S. Atty for Eq.

Sir: of Ex.

RG104 Entry 11

Branch Mint of the United States,
New Orleans

Treasurer's Office November 12th 1839

Dear Sir

I yesterday applied to Mr Kennedy for authority, to incur the expense necessary to render habitable the house in the Mint intended for myself & family.— Mr Kennedy does not appear willing that we should go to any expense, without first consulting with you, and it is at his suggestion that I now apply to you, and enclosed you have his letter to me on the subject.

I will here remark that this part of the building was not intended for a dwelling, it is very inconvenient and not well finished, several of the rooms, one of them the best in the house, are without fire places, the rooms are 22. feet long, two windows in one end, in the other, one small door with wooden shutters, which when closed (which must be constantly, as the Gallery is common to the Mint) darkens the rooms and makes them very unpleasant. Such doors may be placed inside of the frame, without interfering with the other doors. The walls have flues, and a fire place can be easily attached. The wood work has not been painted since the building was finished, and is much in want of paint.— I assure you Sir, that these things are necessary, and the expense will be moderate, I think about $100.— The partitions are wanted to make rooms for

RG104 Entry 11

my servants, who are all very decent white women. The servants rooms were by Mr. Bradford, are little wooden divisions in the Garret, without windows, where they could sleep only on the floor, only negroes could occupy such a place, and I do not think it safe to have lights where there is so much wood work.—

Mr. Tyler means no other expense than papering our Room.—

I am very respectfully
Your most truly
H. Cammack Jr.
Treasurer

We are all very much in want of stalls, which have been entirely omitted in the building.—

To
Dr. R. M. Patterson
Director U.S. Mint
Philadelphia

RG104 Entry 11

New Orleans November 13th 1839

Dr R. M. Patterson
Director Mint
Phil.a

Sir,

I have the honor of enclosing a letter from Mr Middle, Dist Atty of the U. together with duplicates of my account, receipted, for services rendered at the investigation instituted into the conduct of the officers of the Branch Mint at this place. As it has been some time since the proceedings have been closed I would request the favor of your attention to my claims.

I will feel grateful for an early acknowledgement of the receipt of my letter.

I am, Sir, with Great Respect
Your most ob.t Sv.t
Horatio David

Dec. 3. 1839. Mr. Middle was this day paid the amount of his bill, and a copy of Secretary's letter received yesterday.

RG104 Entry 11

(Copy.)

The United States

To Horatio Davis,

Notary Public — Dr.

1859. June & July } To draft of the proceedings had before Thos. Slidell, Esq., Commissioner appointed on behalf of the United States, to investigate the conduct of the Officers of the U. S. Br. Mint at New Orleans,

Eight Sittings — $500.—

To three copies of the same, one forwarded to R. M. Patterson, Director of the United States Mint at Phila., one furnished to Mr. Slidell, and one furnished to the Parties, to perpetuate their defence, and now recorded in my office, — $250 each — 750.—

To per diems for attendance at the Mint on the 2d, 10th, 14th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 22d, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th of June, & 1st, 2d, 3d, 14th of July

18 days at $10.— 180.—

$1430.—

Received payment in full for the above

(Signed) Horatio Davis.

New Orleans,

Nov. 12. 1859.

(Paid)

RG104 Entry 11

"The said services were rendered at my request, by Horatio Davis Notary Public of New Orleans, who was employed by me to administer oaths to the witnesses, take down the testimony and prepare the Copies thereof. With a view of not interrupting the business of the Mint, the sittings commenced at 4½ P.M., and usually continued till after Midnight. I consider the bill a just and ~~[illegible]~~ reasonable one, and accordingly approve the same.

U. S. Dist. Atty. Office,
New Orleans, Nov. 12. 1839.
(Signed) Thomas Slidell,
U.S. Atty. Eo. Dist. Eoo."

RG104 Entry 11

Branch Mint of the United States
New Orleans
Treasurer's Office Nov. 13. 1839.

Sir

I have to day received your letter of the 4th instant, with a statement of moneys received & paid out for expences of this branch Mint incurred in Philadelphia. Our entries will be made to bring funds. The accounts for contingent expences for the 3rd quarter have been closed and forwarded to Washington sometime ago. The payments you have made will have to come in the next quarter.

I notice what you have said about the light coins and also your wishes that the 38 sect. of the Mint act, be followed: this section had already had my attention.

By the mail of tomorrow morning I send to the Secretary of the Treasury, full accounts, made out from the time that this branch first went into operation, shewing the general business that has been contracted since that time. I shall be glad to hear that they be found regular

Dr Riddle has not arrived.

I am, very respectfully,
Your faithfully & truly
A. G. Carmichael
Treasurer

The surplus Gold in Manuelle & Lemuel 27,035 has been passed to Profit & Loss.

RG104 Entry 11

Mint of the U. S.

November 14. 1839.

Dear Sir,

I have before me your letters of the 25th ult & 1st inst. – the latter having been received yesterday; & have to express my gratification at the explicit & business-like manner in which you have brought up the Accounts of the N. O. Branch Mint.

I learn from your Balance Sheet, that the late Treasurer is accountable for $2180.34 in the Bullion Account; and that the Coinage of the Mint has been used to defray bills against the Mint, in Ordinary Account, to the amount of $12,256.21. So it ascertained that there are receipts & vouchers, in the latter Account, answering to that expenditure.

I need scarcely remark, for your own guidance, that the funds belonging to the Bullion Accounts should never be used to pay bills against the Mint. Your Superintendent can always keep you in Ordinary Funds, by requisitions upon the Mint Appropriations, in moderate advances of expenses.

You ask whether we can spare any of the funds here, belonging to your Branch. You are aware that we have, as you will probably remember, acting about $2500. Of this ~~you may draw upon us at sight~~ and other materials from this place, [illegible] ~~for $1000~~ ~~no part of which can be paid by any one, should~~ ought to be retained. I accordingly think you will do ~~well to draw for $1000, [illegible] to $2000~~ [illegible] (Cashier).

Yr. obt. servt. Chas. Ewing Cashier

Mr. Ewing

As it regards the Certificate issued by the late Treasurer, to Mr. Fragoso, for $28.55 more than the proper value of his deposite, I trust the depositor will not hesitate to restore the matter to its true state, by taking out a correct Certificate. If not, the Mr. Fretell, being responsible to Government for the amount certified, ~~will have~~ must hold Mr. Fragoso accountable to himself for the difference. The Mint books should not exhibit balances due from depositors. – This affair shows the necessity of great care in calculations, & the issuing of papers; and the importance of having assiduous and competent clerks. At the same time, I ~~doubtful~~ persuade that an act of Congress, in any material mistake, would relieve the Treasurer of the Mint from loss, but as yet, no precedent has occurred, in any of the Mints, to confirm such a presumption.

I have recently written fresh instructions to Mr. Kennedy, to which I beg leave to refer you, for important details in respect to your official duties.

Very respectfully
your faithful servt

H. C. Cammack Esq
Treas: M. & D. W.

RG104 Entry 11

U. S. Branch Mint
New Orleans November 17th 1839

R. M. Patterson Esquire

Sir,

You will receive herewith the bond and oath of office of Mr Tyler, which were handed to me yesterday.

Dr. Riddell has not yet returned. Should he not come in the next packet from Texas, which is looked for in the course of next week, it will be impossible to say when we can expect him. There is not even a certainty that he himself has any knowledge of his appointment, for he has not, I believe, been heard from since his departure by those friends who applied for it in his behalf. The law regulates the mode of proceeding should a temporary absence of any of the principal officers of the Mint occur, but this case, I think, is unprovided for

RG104 Entry 11

Under these circumstances, what are we to do? Would you be kind enough to let me hear from you on this subject.

Preferring my own residence, to that allotted to the Superintendent, I have given up the apartments in the Mill occupied by Mr Brady, to Mr Cammack who has asked my consent to certain improvements and alterations about the premises. There is no doubt that they would contribute materially to the comfort of himself and his family, but, the probable greatness of the expense to be incurred thereby, has induced me to refer him to you.

I have the honor to be
very respectfully
Your obedient Servant
J. B. McNeill
Supt.

RG104 Entry 11

U. S. Branch Mint
New Orleans, Nov 20. 1839

R. M. Patterson Esquire

Sir,

I rec.d at a late hour yesterday your letter of the 9th inst., accompanied by a communication touching the books and accounts of the Mint. That document is now in the hands of the Treasurer, and will, in a short time, be laid before the other Officers of the Institution. If any of the books required to be kept should be wanting in any of the Departments, you shall be immediately apprised thereof. In the mean time, I have the honor to inform you, that no esp. can be found, of your letter of instructions of the 25th May 1838.

Respectfully
Your obed.t Servt.
J. McKamey
Supt.

RG104 Entry 11

Mint U. S.
Nov. 20 1839.

Sir,

I have the honor to send you herewith the bond and oath of office of Joseph M. Kennedy, as Deputy intendent of the Branch Mint at New Orleans. They appear to me satisfactory and in due form.

I have to acknowledge the receipt of a package, sent under your frank, containing a series of Brazilian Coins, which we suppose to be those presented by Mr. Hocumel.

R. M. P.

To
Hon. Levi Woodbury
Sec. of Treas.

RG104 Entry 11

Mint of the U. S.
Nov. 21. '39.

Sir,

Your bond has been duly rec'd, & I have sent it to the Dep't, with a certificate that it was to my satisfaction.

The Order accompanying your letter of the 9th, for Articles for the Melter & Refiner's Department, has been attended to. The glass will be forwarded to you from Boston.

In consequence of a letter from Mr. Taylor, of the 4th inst, I have informed all the new applicants for places in our Mint that their services would not be wanted. But two of the old hands, Mr. Johnson & Mr. McNamee, had already left here, in the faith that they would be admitted to their old stations. The former, I find, is not approved by Mr. Taylor. The latter is, I think, a man of excellent character, and he has had lately some useful experience at this Mint. It is for you to decide, under Mr. Taylor's advice, what course will be pursued, under the the circumstances, with these hands. They dis-

RG104 Entry 11

kindly intended that I disavowed all right to engage their services for good; and as to Johnson, I expressed to him my doubts whether he would be employed at all.

R. M. T.

J.

To
Jos. M. Kennedy, Esq.,
Supt. Br. Mint,
New Orleans.

RG104 Entry 11

Treasurer's Office U. S. Branch Mint
New Orleans November 25 1849

Sir

I have the pleasure to acknowledge receipt this day of your letter of 14th instant, enclosing a Cheque for $100. on the Girard Bank of Philadelphia

The late Treasurer's Contingent account was accompanied by proper receipts & vouchers, with no or too very trifling exceptions. and they were forwarded by me to the Secretary of the Treasury.

The certificate to Fragoso was paid before I came into office, and the amount of the error $25 cts has been placed to the debit of the late Treasurer. We have not been able to find the depositor.

Nothing of the 72 cts. short in the Silver bullion account was for an error found to have been made in weighing bullion after melting received from James W. Zachariè & Co. - say 3.07 oz. which Messrs Zachariè & Co. note refund.

I have lately discovered that a box of Silver weighing 12 cts. oz: which I received from Mr Forstall, and for want of a proper explanation entered to his credit as part of his bullion, belongs to a deposite made by Zachariè & Co. on 25 July. but was not entered to their credit. I have now debited Mr Forstall and Credited Zachariè & Co. with the amount.

RG104 Entry 11

Two bills drawn by the late superintendent on you on 5 August last, and charged in your late account, have not been entered in the books of this office in any manner. They are as follows

paid Edmund Fontaine and indorsed
to Chas D. Bromstead $450.-

paid the same tendered
& cannot be cancelled 70.-

Mr Fontaine can give no explanation about this business but he thinks the money was received for the wrafts when they were issued.

Dr Hardie has not arrived, which I regret very much. A steam boat will arrive in two days from Texas, and he will no doubt be in her. A recent letter from him, mentions his intention to be here by the 1st proximo. Mr Elrich, foreman of the late Mint & Refinery, has melted the various deposites lately received, and he thinks he can make ingots of the proper standard, by one trial which we permitted him to make, he did not quite succeed.

I am, with much respect
your faithful servant
H. Cammack
Supt.

To
Dr R. M. Patterson
Director U.S. Mint

Herewith are inclosed duplicate receipts for the 1500 Dollars as requested. —

RG104 Entry 11

Mint U.S.
Nov. 25/39.

Sir,

Your letter of the 12th inst. has been received, together with your account for services rendered during the investigations at the New Orleans Mint. In consequence of an uncertainty as to the fund from which this expense is to be defrayed, I am under the necessity of referring the matter to the Department at Washington. On receiving my instructions upon the subject, I will write to you again, and hope that no difficulty will be permitted as to an early settlement of your account.

R. M. S.

H. Horatio Davis, Esq.
Notary Public,
New Orleans.

RG104 Entry 11

Mint U. S.
Nov. 27/39.

Sir,

I have the honor to send you herewith the Bond of Philo B. Tyler Esq., as Coiner of the Branch Mint at New Orleans, with my certificate that I find it satisfactory. Mr. Tyler's oath of office is appended to the Bond.

I am sorry to have, from Mr. Kennedy, that Dr. Riddell, who is appointed Melter & Refiner, has not yet returned from Texas, and has not been heard from since his appointment. He is looked for daily, but, in the mean time, the functions of the Mint must be necessarily suspended.

P. M. P.

To Hon. Levi Woodbury,
Sec. of Treasy.

RG104 Entry 11

Treasury Department
Nov. 30 1839

Sir,

Your communication enclosing the bill from Horatio Dubois for his services during the investigation at the Branch Mint at N. Orleans, has been received.

In reply I have to remark, that a compensation which appears to you to be reasonable should be paid out of the Mint funds on which it would seem to form a proper charge.

Should your means not be, at present, sufficient it will be advisable to ask for an additional sum next year to enable you to pay what may seem just & proper.

I remain very Respy

Your Ob Servt
Sec. of the Treasury

D. R. W. Patterson
Philada

RG104 Entry 11

U. S. Branch Mint N. Orleans
Nov. 29. 1839.

R. M. Patterson Esquire

Sir -

I have rec.d a copy from, which I beg leave to make the following extracts -

"I would call your attention to the propriety of sending for the coining dies, in time to have them fitted to the presses before the commencement of 1840."

"I would also request you to furnish me with a set of scales and steel weights in place of those formerly used in my department, now claimed by the Agent. My predecessor had adopted a very good mode of adjusting coins by which scales of that size and quality are required. The weights will be convenient for other purposes of practice in assaying. I believe there is not at the present time any of that denomination in the Mint."

I find in my department weights marked for the different denominations of coins, but have no means of ascertaining their

RG104 Entry 11

"correctness, and I should be pleased to
have you send to the Mint for
a copy of the standard weights for each
of the different denominations of coins."

If you would have the goodness to comply as
soon as practicable, with the foregoing request,
you would oblige me exceedingly.
I will send you, tomorrow, or on the next day,
a report, upon your communication touching
the costs and amounts of the Mint –

I have the honor to be
respectfully
Your obedt. Servt
J. McPherson
Supt.

I forgot to mention that the scales
required by the Coinage are those
sent out by you to the Mint
for the standard assay of weights, and
which were left by him for some time
with the late Mr. Rufus Tyler.

RG104 Entry 11

U. S. Branch Mint, New Orleans
December 1st 1839.

R. M. Patterson Esquire

Sir,

In accordance with your communication touching the books and accounts of the Mint an examination has been made in every department of this Establishment, which shows the following books and found to be matters

Treasurer's Office

I K. Memorandum book of assay coins &c, being an account between the Treasurer of the Mint and the Director at Philad.a

L. Book of appropriations, exhibiting the sums appropriated & Government &c.

Superintendent's office

II A. * Warrants for the pay.t of certificates of gold deposits

B Do — do — do — Silver do

L Warrants to the Treasurer, authorizing him to draw from the contingent fund to balance the account of profit & loss in Refining

* Inclose the indorsement of the person in whose favour the certificate stood was considered sufficient

RG104 Entry 11

Melter & Refiner's office

I E Ledger exhibiting his account of the monthly warrants &c

III A Treasurer's account of gold in account with the M & R.

B D. — do — Silver —

On a report from the Comer, that officer says -

" I have not been able to find any of the books necessary for the accounts of my department corresponding with those designated by the Director - The only books kept by my predecessor, were three books of entry -

1st for the receipt of ingots

2d " — " — Silver of coins

3d — " — " — do — of clippings "

The assayer reports, that he has "all the books required in the assay department, and that they have been regularly kept from the beginning of the operations of the Mint."

In relation to those parts of your communication referring to the bringing up of the books, and the settlement of the Wastage of the late Melter & Refiner, and Comer, allow me to make a few extracts from a report received from Mr. Cammack &c

" Since the books of this department have been brought up I have forwarded to the Secretary of the Treasury full copies of all the general accounts in the books, showing the operations of the Mint since its commencement, made out according to the forms which were found amongst the papers of this Office, and which I believe will give all the information wanted by the Department at Washington" —

" Profit & Loss account has been debited with the Wastage allowed to the late Melter & Refiner and Comer, and there is still to the credit of that account the sum of $3741. 99/100, and will not consequently require any draft on the Contingent fund"

" The surplus gold in Mr. Maxwell's account without any allowance to him for Wastage or the gold passed through his hands is 2 $\frac{256}{1000}$ g which has been entered to the credit of Profit & Loss, and charged to Gold Bullion -"

" I find no account on the books of the 8 $\frac{694}{1000}$ g stand. gold found in the Silver deposits of Mess. Lizardi &c. - The amount will now be entered to Mess. Lizardi &c. and placed to the debit of the late Treasurer."

RG104 Entry 11

I am glad to find that you properly appreciate the worth of our present Treasurer. He is truly an excellent officer - I have left with him the choice of his own Clerk, and he has selected a young gentle= man of the name of Wicker, who stands deservedly high in his confidence - Mr Bertrand, whom I have appointed Weigher, came to me very strongly recommended - Of his qualifications, in every respect I think there is no doubt.

Dr. Riddell it is said, will certainly be here by the 10th of this Month -

I have the honor to be

Respectfully

Your faithful Servant

J. McKomey

Supt.

RG104 Entry 11

Mint of the United States.
Dec. 3d, 1839.

Sir,

I send enclosed a copy of the estimate, which I have forwarded to the Department of your expenses at your Mint for the year 1840. I had requested an estimate from the late Superintendent, and one was sent to me by Dr. Hunt the acting in his place at the time. The amount was $60,000, — the contingent expenses and wastage being set down at $25,000. We are unable to make out so large a sum, and I think it my indispensable, under the circumstances of your institution, to ask none of Congress than is absolutely wanted any. Still, if you are of opinion that you can not get on with my estimate, it is not too late to correct it, and I will apply, for that purpose, to the Committee of Ways & Means, if you request it.

One item which may make an

RG104 Entry 11

additions to the estimate necessary, has been pointed to me, in the bill from Horatio Davis which I send enclosed to you, with an inquiry, respecting the payment of this bill, which I addressed to the Secretary of the Treasury, he sent me the reply of which a copy is annexed. Under his instructions you will see that the Mr. Davis's charge has to be paid out of your Mint funds, and you will do so if it be in your power. If not, or if the payment will touch too much upon your most recent estimate, an additional amount must be asked for Congress, and of this you will please to inform me. I wish that you would also ascertain Mr. Middleton's charge, and learn from him whether he looks for payment to the Mint or to the Department ~~at Washington~~ of the Attorney General.

I have been ~~also little~~ embarrassed by the applications made on behalf of Mr. Cammack for alterations in his apartments at the Mint — so much am I afraid of additional expense at this time. If you deem the alterations necessary, however, and think they cannot be conveniently postponed, I presume you would be justified in providing for the comfortable accommodation of the Treasurer, whose residence at the Mint is very desirable for the public service. I am sorry to learn, too late, that the wing of the Mint, set apart as a residency, was not built according to my wishes. — I do not think that any charge for erecting stables would pass the audit at Washington. Even the residency at the Mint was not contemplated originally, and an over-particular regard of the greater security and facility in transacting the public business. On that ground

could an institution stable and coach houses! Not quarters are allowed to the officers of this Mint; and although two of them sleep in the buildings, they have each only a single small chamber.

You have done a benefit to the institution in yielding your apartments to the strangers. It is much more important that he should reside in the premises.

R. M. P.

P.S. I will send you, shortly, a copy of my instructions of May 25. 1838, - referred to in your's of the 30th ult. just received.

Jos. M. Kennedy, Esq.
Sup. Br. Mint,
New Orleans.

For copy of Estimates enclosed, see file, Nov. 30.
" " " See. of P's letter " " " Dec. 2.

RG104 Entry 11

Sir

I have just heard that Dr Russell has arrived in a Steam Boat which came in an hour ago from Galveston.

With the assistance of Mr Lovick I have been able to get cripts of silver enough made to keep the Mint at work, tho' not as many as he could have used.

I hope that we may yet, before the 1st of January, be able to pay all the certificates we have out.

To-day the first delivery of Coins was made by Mr Tyler - 55,000 dimes. -

I am truly yours
H. L. Cammack

Dr R. M. Patterson.

Thursday Eve'g
December 5th 1839.

RG104 Entry 11

U. S. Branch Mint
New Orleans December 9th 1839

R. M. Patterson Esq
Dear Sir,

By yesterday's mail I sent to the Secretary of the Treasury, to be by him transmitted to you, a box containing some gold and silver coins received for the annual assay, of which the enclosed is a Memorandum.

Dr. Riddell arrived from Texas two or three days ago. He has accepted his Commission of Melter & Refiner, and will probably be ready, commence operations in his department.

I am very respectfully
Your obt. Servt.
J. McKinney
Supt.

RG104 Entry 11

New Orleans December 9th 1839

Sir,

I have received your letter of the 25th ult. & am grateful for the prompt attention you did me the favor to bestow on me.

I pray you, Sir, to excuse me if the pressure, which I feel in common with so many others, emboldens me to request of you to advise me of any thing that it may be necessary for me to do, in order to obtain the decision of the department at Washington. Very Respectfully

Your most obt. Servt

Horatio Davis

To
Doctor R. M. Patterson
Director U.S. Mint
Philadelphia

RG104 Entry 11

Treasury Department
December 10. 1839.

Sir,

I learn from a communication received this morning from N. Orleans, that the operations of the Branch Mint at that place are still suspended in consequence of the absence of the Melter and Refiner lately appointed. As it appears to be quite uncertain when that officer may be expected to enter on the duties of his office, permit me to enquire whether some arrangement cannot be made so that the operations of the Mint may be carried on without waiting longer for his arrival.

If not, should not another person be appointed? I remain very Resp.y

Wm Ald[illegible]

Secy Treasury

Secy. of the Treasury

Dr. R. M. Patterson
Director of the Mint
Philad.

RG104 Entry 11

Mint of the U. S.
Dec. 11. 1839.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 9th inst., and in compliance with the specific instructions therein given, the Treasurer of the Mint has opened a special account as depository of the public money with the Treasurer of the United States, and has credited the Treasurer of the U. S. in that account with $30,000 deposited by the Collector of Philadelphia, and $3,000 as a deposite by James W. Breedlove, late Collector of New Orleans. A copy of this account signed by the Treasurer of the Mint, is transmitted to the Treasurer of the U. S., by the present mail, in obedience to your instructions.

R. M. P.
Dr

The Hon. Levi Woodbury
Sec. of Treas.

RG104 Entry 11

U. S. Branch Mint
N. O. Dec. 12. 1839

R. M. Patterson Esq.re

Sir,

A few days ago Mr. Parker, our late weigher, presented a bill for four months' salary, that July, August, Sept. & Oct., amounting to $400. - Upon a memorandum which Mr. Dimitry, the late Treasurer, & clerk handed to Mr. Cammack, Parker was charged, on a/c of Salary with $50, which Mr. C. took, to be part of that due him at the time the Mint suspended operations, and entered it accordingly in the accounts transmitted by him to the Treas.y Depart.t - It appears however from Mr. Parker's Statement which is corroborated by Dr. Hort, that the $50 which he rec.d from Dimitry was an old balance left by him in the hands of the latter, and had nothing to do with his salary for the period mentioned in his bill -

Mr. Cammack has retained the $50, expecting you to say whether they shall be charged

paid to Parker and charged to Mr. Pentalle –
I enclose Dr. Riddel's bill for the
Respectfully yr. obt. Serv.
J. McKinney
Jr.

RG104 Entry 11

Mint of the United States,
December 14. 1839.

Sir,

Your letter of the 1st inst. ~~received yesterday~~ informs me of certain Account Books & Forms which are wanting in your Institution, upon an investigation ~~lately requested by me~~ made according to my request.

For the Memorandum Book of Assay Bars, &c. your Treasurer may take any small blank-book, and open a single Entry account in a form satisfactory to himself. A clear statement of dates, facts, and moneys, is all that is desired – the account being merely of an auxiliary or secondary character.

The same direction applies to the Book of Appropriations. A plain exhibition of the items appropriated by Congress, and of the sums drawn on account thereof, will be sufficient, and a suitable form will easily be agreed on between Mr. Cammack and yourself.

Printed forms of the Warrant A, B, I, are sent herewith. You will please to have similar ones printed, and bound. – Specimens of the ~~usual~~ proper indorsement are also given. –

In regard to the Warrant I, your Treasurer will observe, that the entries, in ~~relation~~ pursuance thereof, will be to charge "Silver Coinage", & credit "Profit & Loss," in the Bullion Book, and to charge "Incidental

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and Contingent Expenses" and credit "The Treasurer of the Branch Mint" in the Ordinary Books.

The Melter & Refiner's Ledger exhibiting his accounts of the monthly warrants &c. is a counterpart of the Ledger entries of the Treasurer, in account with the first named Officer. – From this book, the M & R's quarterly returns are abstracted.

The three books which your Corner mentions, are probably in sufficient form; but there should also be a Ledger, similar to that above mentioned, as a check upon the Treasurer's Account, and as a basis for quarterly abstracts.

It is very satisfactory to me, to learn that your Treasurer has forwarded ~~copies~~ to Washington, abstracts of the accounts of the Mint, from the commencement of its operations. – ~~[illegible]~~ There is something remarkable in the fact stated by him, that after allowing for Wastage, there is still a credit to Profit & Loss, of $3741.94. In your next communication, will you please to inform me from what sources principally, so considerable a credit was derived?

The right course has been taken, in the case of the 8 $\frac{625}{1000}$ oz. of gold, due Messrs. Lizardi & Co. I would suggest, that that house ought to be apprized of the fact, if it can be imagined that they are ignorant of it.

The requests of your Corner for dies for 1840, has been attended to, and a full set is in the ~~[illegible]~~ county of Philadelphia &c. The balances & weights asked for shall also be sent as soon as they ~~are~~ can be procured.

J. M. Kennedy Esq.
Supt. N.O.B.M.

RG104 Entry 11

Mint U. S.
Dec. 16. 1839.

Sir,

Knowing your anxiety respecting the long continued absence of Dr. Riddell from the New-Orleans Mint, and the delay in commencing its operations, I send you herewith a copy of a letter just received from Mr. Cammack.

The making of ingots & their delivery to the Coiner, may perhaps be justified by the urgent & peculiar circumstances of the case, - but it was certainly irregular, and must be assumed by Dr. Riddell, as his own act, after he shall enter upon his official functions. I will give the proper instructions as to this matter.

R. M. P.

Col
Hon. Levi Woodbury,
Sec. of Treasury.

RG104 Entry 11

U. S. Branch Mint New Orleans
Dec. 17. 1839

R. M. Patterson Esq.
Sir,

Dr. Hart informs me that when he estimated the expenses of this Branch Mint for 1840 at $60,000, it was not without consulting with Mr. Cammack, and taking into consideration those of former years. We cannot get along without a porter and two or three laborers over and above the number allowed. The wages of these as well as of the night guard the number of which we have been obliged to increase, are paid from the contingent fund. I think that with $60,000 we will require an additional sum to pay the bill of Mr. Davis. Mr. Slidell says that he will make his charge after the claim of Mr. D. will have been settled. He will look to our Mint. I think for payment, altho' my opinion is, that if he had been left, without any inquiry on the subject, he would not have thought himself entitled to any compensation

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Will you be so kind as to obtain for me from the Purser's department, a statement of the different expenditures made to the Navy since it first was in its operation, with the amounts appropriated to each particular branch —

I am very respectfully

Your Ob.t Serv.t

J. McKinney

Sec.t

RG104 Entry 11

Mint of the U. S.
Dec. 17. 1839.

Sir,

My anxiety was much relieved by learning, from a letter of Mr. Cammack, that Dr. Riddell had arrived at your post, tho' he had not yet been at the Mint. I immediately informed the Secretary of the Treasury of the fact, for Dr. Riddell's long delay had caused much uneasiness at the Department. I hope that no time has been lost in taking the preliminary steps necessary to his entering upon the discharge of his duties.

Mr. Cammack informs me that there has been a delivery of ingots to the Coiner, and of Coins made from these ingots to the Treasurer. You are of course aware that this proceeding is entirely irregular, altho' dictated by a very commendable zeal. You will see that the translation, so far as it concerns the department of the Mint, defined, be assumed by Dr. Riddell, as his act, and done under his responsibility. It must be transferred to his account on the books, and

RG104 Entry 11

a distinct statement of the transaction. This is all that can now be done as to a proceeding which I could not have advised.

I will thank you to present to me, at the earliest day after the close of the year, a statement of the operations of your Branch, up to that time, with any other information and suggestions which you may deem important, forming annual report to the President.

I send enclosed an account of the process of working gold ingots, drawn up at the request of your Coiner, Mr. Sybel, and which I will thank you to give to him.

R. M. T.

(L)

Jas. M. Kennedy, Esq.
Supt. Br. Mint,
New Orleans.

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Treasury Department
Dec. 18. 1839.

Sir,

I transmit by this Mail to your address - a box received this morning from the Branch Mint at N. Orleans. contents not known.

Very Respectfully

Levi Woodbury
Sec. of the Treasury

Dr. R. M. Patterson
Philada.

RG104 Entry 11

Mint U.S.
Dec. 20/39.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 18th inst., with a box containing the usual coins for the annual assay transmitted from the New Orleans Mint.

I have no further information from the Mint, since that conveyed in the letter of Mr. Cammack, of which I sent you a copy of on the 16th inst.

R. M. P.

Hon. Levi Woodbury
Sec. of Treasury.

RG104 Entry 11

Mint of the U States,
Dec. 23d, 1839.

Sir,

On the 20th, I rec.d through the Sec.y of the Treasury, a box transmitted by you, containing the coins recommended by your Mint for the annual assay, and I have this day rec.d your letter of the 9th inst. with the list of these coins. The coins recommended, you will please to send, in the same manner, at the close of the year.

I am much pleased to learn that Dr. Riddell is in the place, and was on the point of entering upon the discharge of his new duties as Melter & Refiner. I hope to receive his bond without delay, and notice that the arrangement mentioned in my letter of the 17th has been made.

Very respectfully,
Yr. ob. servt.

To Joseph M. Kennedy, Esq.
Sup.t Br. Mint,
New Orleans.

RG104 Entry 11

Mint of the U.S.
Decr 23d 1839.

Sir,

A letter of the 9th inst. just rec.d from the Superintendent of the N. Orleans Mint, states that the new Melter & Refiner, Dr. Riddell, was in his place, and would probably enter upon the discharge of his duties the following day.

Very respectfully,
Your faithful Serv.t

To
Hon. Levi Woodbury,
Secr. of the Treasury.

RG104 Entry 11

Mint of the U. States,
Dec. 23d. 1839.

Sir,

I have just rec'd your letter of the 9th inst. in reference to the charge for your services as Notary Public, during the investigation at the New Orleans Mint. The information which you ask, was communicated, to the Superintendent of the Mint, in a letter of the 3rd inst. and has probably been already made known to you by him, or, if not, will be so whenever you please to call on him. The matter is now in his hands, though it may not be in his power to settle your account until the new appropriations are made.

Very respectfully,
Your ob't Serv't

To Horatio Davis, Esq.
Notary Public,
New Orleans.

RG104 Entry 11

(copy)

To

In 1838 and again this year, I reported in writing to the late superintendent that there was a defect in my assay balance, which rendered impossible that extreme accuracy which is so important in my department. Mr Patterson was willing to see the defect, and each time I had referred to the late assayer, who examined it, pointed out the defects, promised to rectify them, but who unfortunately never found time to do it.

The first defect pointed out was in the knife edge, but a greater one, & the cause of the former, was in the so called beams, which are designed to keep the knife edge in its place, but which do not rise high enough to accomplish that object, and are too loose in their play. The effect of this is to shake the knife edge on one side at a time, irregularly, and with a jerk, which must necessarily in a very short time, dull the fine edge of the knife. The balance should be sensible to 1/10 of a milligram, but it is barely sensible to 1/2 a milligram; that is, it requires 1/2 mg to turn the balance, so that altho I may be somewhat quite accurate, I am always liable to an error on my part unavoidable of from 1/2 to 1 milligram, which is very serious matter, when Gold is weighed. I deem it my duty to communicate this fact to you and remain

Very respectfully yours
(Signed) Wm P. Hort Assr

U. S. Branch Mint, N. Orleans
Dec. 26. 1839

Sir,

You will find on the next page, a copy of a letter sent to me some days ago by Mr Adger. I am requested by Dr. Hoit to say to you, that with a view to avoid, if possible, again troubling you in relation to his assay balance he had it examined, on two different occasions, by persons residing out of the Mint there being no one, competent within the Atlantic towns, since the death of the late Comer, competent to put it in order. He has, also ascertained that the defect cannot be rectified here. If it lies exclusively in the knife edge, its removal would be attended with little or no difficulty, but it needs the "Levelled Bagged" and this makes it necessary that application be again made to you.

Is it in your power to have us another assay balance made in your Mint?

Very respectfully
Your obed.t Servt

J. M. Bonney
Supt.

R. M. Patterson Esq.re

the Mint at New Orleans alone, but
for full settlement.
confusion in the account
the transfer from the
transfer has not been made
the Judge not according
Philadelphia, and you
not be made until the
himself
ult.
between the Treasurer and
kept
not been made for the

the account, or vouchers or

you inquiries relative to
the Mint at New Orleans and
applicable to those with

Respectfully
Edm. Fontaine
Treas. Br. Mint

Treasury Department
First Comptroller's Office
December 27th 1858

Sir

Your account as Treasurer of the Branch Mint at New Orleans has been adjusted at the Treasury and a balance of $22.628.76 stated to be due from you to the United States.

Balance acknowledged by you to be due is $2.628.76
To which add
The following warrants issued since that period for which your account was credited and therefore not credited by you but with which you stand charged on the books of the Treasury
No 9118 dated 9 July 1838 $10.000
" 9447 " 25 August " 10.000 — 20.000
$22.628.76

Very respectfully
Your obt Servt
(Signed) J. N. Barker
Comptroller

Edm. Fontaine Esq.
Treasurer of Branch Mint
New Orleans

RG104 Entry 11

drawn up from the statements of the Mint & Refinery alone, but the accounts have been compared before full settlement.

4° There is no irregularity or confusion in the accounts in this office. The only point omitted is the transfer from the journal to the ledger, which transfer has not been made in consequence of the ruling of the Judge not according with the opinions received from Philadelphia, and you request that the entries should not be made until the arrival of Mr Safford, who however, avowed himself unable to clear up the difficulty.

5° The Bullion account between the Treasurer and Mint & Refinery has been opened and regularly kept, the transfers to the ledger have not been made for the reasons just stated.

6° There is no irregularity in the accounts, or vouchers or books in this office.

7° The following letters to you enquiries relative to the transaction of business with the Mint & Refinery and the state of accounts are equally applicable to those with the coiner.

Respectfully
(signed) Edm. Fontaine
Treas. Br. Mint

To Lewis Bradford Esq.
Supt. Br. Mint

Treasury Department
First Comptroller's Office
December 27

Sir

Your account as Treasurer of the Mint at New Orleans has been adjusted at the balance of $22.625.76 stated to be due to the United States.

Balance acknowledged by you to be due is

To which add

The following warrants issued since that period for which your account was credited and therefore not credited by you but with which you stand charged on the books of the Treasury

No 9118 dated 9 July 1838 $10.000
" 9447 " 25 August " 10.000

$

Very respectfully
Your obt. Serv.
(Signed) S. N. Rantoul
Comptroller

Edm. Fontaine Esq.
Treasurer of Branch Mint
New Orleans

RG104 Entry 11